

AUSTRALIAN

★ NSW SEASON'S PREVIEW PAGE 8
★ FILAN TAKES reusch AWARD

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PRELIM FINAL FEVER



(In depth cover, see Pages 3, 4, 5)

LEFT: Marconi's New Zealand international star Fred de Jong celebrates after last Sunday's major semi-final win over Melbourne Croatia. Marconi now sits and waits to meet the winner of next Sunday's Sydney Olympic — Melbourne Croatia preliminary final at Parramatta Stadium. BELOW LEFT: Black and White action — Francis Awaritefe (Melbourne Croatia) bears down on Bob Catlin (Marconi). Pic: HECTOR CARRASCO.

Parramatta Stadium pitch "too big"

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

PARRAMATTA Stadium, the venue for the major semi-final between Marconi and Melbourne Croatia, evoked much criticism from the coaches and players from both teams on Sunday.

The surface was not only deceptively bumpy, but the length as well as the width appeared far too big.

The pitch was heavily laced with a multitude of markings, a legacy from last Friday night's rugby league match.

Could it be possible that the dimensions of the playing pitch were not altered for

soccer?

Marconi coach Berti Mariani commented after the match: "Both sets of midfielders had an enormous pace to cover."

One Marconi defender said: "You couldn't see the other end of the pitch from our position."

Melbourne Croatia coach Ivan Ruznjic reflected: "The surface was very bumpy and too hard. I had no idea how big the playing pitch was. This was the first time I've been here."

Maybe as a precautionary measure, NSL officials should check out the pitch before Sunday's final between Sydney Olympic and Melbourne Croatia.

FILAN'S AWARDS

JOHN Filan of St George collected both the ASW-Bayswater Indoor Soccer Centre Player of the Year Award and the Reusch Goalkeeper of the Year Award.

His trophies and cheques will be presented at Parramatta Stadium on Sunday, prior to the kick-off of the QNSL preliminary final.

What a feat for a 20-year-old youngster!



SAMPDORIA V ANDERLECHT P2&22

MANCHESTER UNITED V CRYSTAL PALACE P11&22

Repeat of the 1989 grand final tipped

BY LOU GAUTIER

WHILE Marconi earned themselves a fortnight's rest by booking a straight passage into the QNSL grand final for the third consecutive season, Melbourne Croatia will again have to travel to Parramatta Stadium on Sunday to tackle Sydney Olympic in Sunday's preliminary final.

as they did last year. Their opponents this season, however, will be much tougher than St George, their victims in 1989.

Olympic showed tonnes of fighting spirit to avenge their NSL Cup final defeat at the hands of South Melbourne.

They may not have won 'pretty' and Souths may have had the lion's share of possession, but Mick Hickman's charges showed they had learnt, and learnt well,

final 60 seconds in the major semi-final in a match which will hardly go down as a classic.

In fact, it was downright ugly at times and good football was at a premium, but the Victorians have enough talent to come out on top in the preliminary final.

They will, of course, be handicapped by again having to play in Sydney when their higher placing in the minor premiership should have entitled them to home advan-



being dispatched to Melbourne to play Croatia in the semis though they finished one place ahead of them in the league.

Let's hope the National League next season finally adheres to firm guidelines and that venues in the play-offs are decided on minor premiership placings.

With both Olympic and Croatia fielding full-strength sides — with the exception of Zeljko Adzic, that is — there's no reason why Sunday's big match should not be a ripper.

The battle is sure to be won in the midfield as I believe Croatia has the stronger defence and Olympic the more potent strike force.

Midfield supremacy is up for grabs and will determine the result in what is certain to be a very close game that may well go into extra-time.

The absence of Adzic will again be a crucial factor and I am taking Sydney Olympic to qualify for the grand final where their opponents, like in 1989, will be minor premiers Marconi.

Filan heads Catlin in Reusch Award

BY GREG BLAKE

GOALKEEPERS take pride of place in our code and to be voted the best of the best is no mean feat.

splendid Reusch wrist watch.

So often a match result hinges on the man in the number one jersey and ASW be-

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6.12 - ROBERT ZABICA (Adelaide City)
6.00 - PHIL TRAINEDES (Preston)



JOHN FILAN — double ASW award winner in his rookie season — HECTOR CARRASCO photo

But John Filan, in his first full QNSL season, has done just that to take away the Goalkeeper of the Year Award, sponsored by Reusch Australia.

Reusch, world famous manufacturers of quality goalkeeping equipment, sponsored ASW's first ever goalkeeping award this season to reward the men whose spectacular acrobatics thrill crowds week in and week out.

Filan's prize is a \$150 cheque and a

believes that as these men are a breed apart, they should be judged as such.

So Filan, on top of being ASW's first-ever Player of the Year, is also crowned the Reusch Goalkeeper of the Year for season 1989-90.

Here is how the country's top custodians finished according to the votes of ASW's experts:

6.92 - JOHN FILAN (St George)



BOB CATLIN



Melbourne Croatia goalkeeper David Miller, seen here last Sunday against Marconi, will again have to be on top of his game this weekend when his side takes on Sydney Olympic — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

Olympic continue to defy the odds and have now won two on the trot to reach the final

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Melbourne Croatia went down only in the

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Last season, however, the shoe was on the other foot. Olympic

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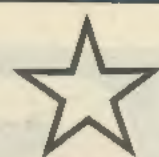


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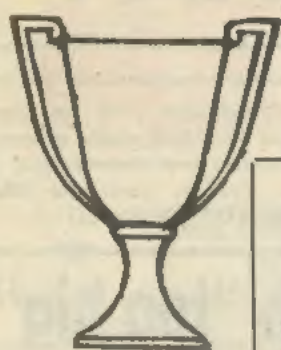
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(Italy)



Anderlecht

(Belgium)



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Marconi v Melbourne Croatia 1-0

Marconi goes into third grand final

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

MARCONI last Sunday battled through a typically dour major QNSL semi-final to defeat Melbourne Croatia 1-0 and earn themselves direct passage into their third successive grand final on Sunday week.

Before a seemingly inflated crowd of 9,278 at Parramatta Stadium, both teams struggled to thread more than two passes together before their moves would break down with monotonous regularity.

Parramatta Stadium's wide open spaces, plus the deceptively bumpy surface, were criticised by coaches and players from each team.

Fred de Jong, appearing in his second last game for Marconi before departing for Holland to play for Fortuna Sittard, lifted Marconi into the grand final with a slashing goal just 60 seconds before fulltime.

Raiding down the left, de Jong unleashed a vicious drive from 12

metres out which took a nasty bounce just a metre in front of the outstretched body of Melbourne Croatia goalkeeper David Miller before flashing into the net.

De Jong in fact, could have knocked in a hat-trick.

In the 68th minute, fellow-striker David Lowe set up de Jong for a crack at the target from 10 metres out on the left, but sweeper Theo Selemidis just managed to block the danger.

Just four minutes before the end, de Jong shaved Croatia's left post with another drive from the right and just 12 metres out.

The giant striker richly deserved his match-winning goal as he ploughed through an enormous amount of work. It was not rare to see him deep in Marconi's box helping out his back-four.

Former Socceroo Alan Davidson, making his comeback to the side after a two-suspension, starred for Croatia.

Davidson was shifted from the sweeper's position and banged into the mid-



David Lowe (right) gives Josip Biskic the slip but Marconi had to wait until the 89th minute for the winning goal — HECTOR CAR-RASCO picture

field where he constantly broke up Marconi build-ups and repeatedly tried to launch counter-attacks.

Melbourne's back four of Paul Donnelly, George Hannah, Theo Selemidis and Andrew Marth looked completely disappointed in the first 30 minutes, and badly missed Davidson's inspiration, but Marconi was guilty of not exploiting the gaps.

Shots at goal were rare and Croatia's flashy striker, Francis Awaritefe, sadly missed the quality ball-service from star midfielders Zeljko Adzic (overseas) and Branko Milosevic (out with a pulled hamstring).

Milosevic is expected back for Sunday's final against Sydney Olympic at Parramatta Stadium.

From the 68th minute, when Melbourne Croatia brought on a fresh John Markovski, the Victorian attack looked sharper and was injected with much needed venom.

But, unfortunately, Markovski's arrival came too late.

Marconi's usually lethal midfield quartet of Gerry Gomez, Ian Gray, Tommy McCulloch and Paul Okon lacked imagination and the usual spraying of well-oiled long passes was missing.

Sweeper Robbie Wheatley stood out on three occasions in the second half when he flashed across behind the defence to nail down dangerous Croatian breakthrough.

Davidson and Biskic valiantly tried to get their side moving but lacked support when launching counter attacks.

MARCONI: Catlin 6, Van Edmond 6, Calderan 6, Wheatley 8, de Marigny 6, Gomez 6, Gray 7, McCulloch 7, Okon 7, (Colaghiuri 68m), de Jong 8, Lowe 7.

MELBOURNE: Miller 7, Donnelly 6, Hannah 6, Selemidis 32, Davidson 38m for Melbourne Croatia, Duzel 6, (Markovski 68m), Davidson 8, Biskic 7, Awaritefe 8, Caleta 6 (Kelic 89m).

SCORER: de Jong 89m for Marconi.

YELLOW CARDS: Selemidis 32, Davidson 38m for Melbourne Croatia.

REFEREE: J. Santa-Isabel 9.

CROWD: 9278.

Coaches predict tough preliminary final

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC coach Mick Hickman is quietly confident for Sunday's preliminary final against Melbourne Croatia at Parramatta Stadium.

"I am keeping my fingers crossed. My boys did extremely well last Sunday against Melbourne Hellas, despite living dangerously in the first 20 minutes," he said.

"Melbourne Croatia has some great talent in their team, especially lads like Alan Davidson, Francis Awaritefe, Branko Milosevic, Josip Biskic and Joe Caleta.

"They are fast and they are competitive,

but we will give them a good run for their money.

"I have one full week now to get the team ready and I must admit after our valiant display last Sunday in Melbourne that my players are now digging deep.

"At this stage, I have no injuries and Sunday's match will be a cracker," predicted Olympic's unassuming coach.

Meanwhile, Mel-



IVAN RAZNJEVIC

bourne Croatia boss Ivan Raznjevic told ASW: "We hope to have Branko Milosevic back for Sunday's clash with Olympic.

"He missed last week's game against Marconi because of a slight hamstring stain.

"Olympic has a good squad and will be hard, if not harder, to beat than Marconi.

In the locker rooms

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

BERTI Mariani, having just watched his team qualify for their third successive grand final, showed little joy.

"That ground out there has wide open spaces, which made it difficult for both sets of midfielders to cover," he said.

"The match was a typically dour finals series one. It was not one of our best performances, although I was not afraid of extra-time being played.

"I did notice, however, a couple of their guys calling to their bench to be taken off as they began to suffer from cramps.

"The Parramatta Stadium surface was very uneven and that showed when Fred de Jong scored his goal. The ball took a nasty bounce just before it got to their goalkeeper.

"I was not surprised that they didn't kick off with Markovski, but it was a real surprise that Milosevic wasn't out there for them."

In Melbourne Croatia's dressing rooms, we spoke to Ivan Raznjevic, who reflected: "It was a very tough game and the ground was very

hard. I would have loved to have brought my side here a day earlier to look around the stadium.

"We missed Milosevic because he suffered a hamstring injury last week against South Melbourne.

"I left Markovski out because I had set up a plan to catch Marconi out on counter-attacks.

"We had equal possession and felt no worry about playing extra-time as our fitness was good."

Man of the match and scorer of the solitary goal, Fred de Jong, was sitting exhausted in a corner as the media zeroed in on him.

De Jong stated: "It was tough out there. The ground is so large

"I wasn't really affected by my pending transfer to Holland, but I was just glad that we only had two matches to play in the Top Five Series.

"I'm looking forward to the grand final, especially if Sydney Olympic make it.

"My flat mate is Robbie Ironside, and the other reason I would like Olympic to be there is that it will then be only a one-legged affair."

Meanwhile, a most disappointed Alan Davidson, told us in Melbourne Croatia's rooms: "I was a little short of a gallop, particularly after not having played a match for three weeks.

"Our final passes let us down.

"Against Sydney Olympic next week, we will have Branko Milosevic back as a bonus.

"We must concentrate on our defence if we are to beat them."



MICK HICKMAN

"In players like Clint Gosling, Robbie Ironside, Robbie Hooker and Abbas Saad, they have plenty of international experience. We will play an open game and will attack Olympic right from the start," the Victorian coach added.



ALAN DAVIDSON

Alan Davidson, one of Melbourne Croatia's top performers last Sunday against Marconi, told us: "We must concentrate on our final third of the pitch. Olympic will give us a hard game, and don't forget they beat us last season in the semis," warned Davo.

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Syd Olympic v South Melbourne 1-0

Olympic form reversal shatters smug Souths

BY GREG BLAKE

THE expectations of supporters were undoubtedly high.

If you play for South Melbourne Hellas they always are.

And in last weekend's minor semi-final there was every reason for Hellas supporters, and players perhaps, to feel just a little bit smug going in against a Sydney Olympic team it had trounced so convincingly in another match which had counted at the same ground 10 days beforehand.

Defeat always hurts. Defeat in a semi-final — particularly one you should have and could have won — is so cruel and cutting and final.

There is almost a tangible stench of defeat in the change rooms of the vanquished after such a game.

You know the loss will linger long and hard in the players' minds because that stench pervades every nook and cranny in that tiny little room scattered with muddled gear, empty drink tins and ice-packs.

The near total silence is unnerving.

Most of the Hellas players sat staring away into space, no doubt trying to make sense of 90 minutes of their lives which had gone terribly, terribly wrong.

Like zombies, some drifted slowly into the anonymous world of a foggy shower room.

Others, like Paul Wade, Paul Trimboli and an exhausted Mehmet Durakovic, sat waiting as if for a last-minute reprieve.

Slowly one or two players drifted into hushed conversation but when David Healy cracked it for just a hint of a smile at a Bruce MacLaren wisecrack, well, the grin just looked out of place. It didn't last.

Steve Blair, whether by fatigue or otherwise, sat motionless for a full 20 minutes.

Blair, for so long the big-hearted Hellas hero, had pulled through a late fitness test to make the big game.

And for what, I'm certain he was asking of himself, for bloody what?

You know these guys well enough to talk to week-in, week-out but it's at times like this that even a journo wishes he was elsewhere, doing something else.

How do you ask Kimon Taliadoros how he feels when it is painfully obvious that he feels like the loneliest guy on earth.

But having conceded that Olympic's effort on Sunday was a dramatic improvement on the cup final, and a victory recorded without contributions from the likes of Abbas Saad and one or two others, the game might have been out of the Sydney club's reach by the time it had found its feet.

Hellas, driven by midfield master Mike Petersen and Wade and a surprisingly aggressive Durakovic, came out of the blocks intent on pushing Olympic over the precipice of no return with one almighty



Alistair Edwards

shove. Enter Kimon Taliadoros, for whom the 1990 season was a coming of age as an NSL champion, and yet he is likely to recall little of the triumph in the light of Sunday's disaster.

Taliadoros had three crystal-clear chances to bury Olympic in the opening 20 minutes and, frankly, he muffed the lot.

After taking Wade's 11th minute back header he rounded Gosling before snapping the ball wide, a minute later big Kimon slammed Tsolakis' cross wide as he faced an open goal from close range and, in the 20th minute, he raced away onto Trimboli's through ball only to slip as he was rounding his marker in sight of goal.

"Right now I feel devastated," said Taliadoros as he bravely faced the media.

"I had the chances and I missed them and I feel like I've let the boys down."

There is no doubt that the three crucial misses sapped South Melbourne of its confidence

and helped buoy an Olympic side struggling to hold ground.

Olympic tightened up its marking — although Trimboli continued to pose problems — and the likes of Grant Lee, Alistair Edwards, Robbie Ironside and Gary Phillips picked it up a notch and began to run proceedings when in possession.

With young Steve Refenes in charge of Danny Wright, Olympic had a potent avenue to goal and it came as little surprise when Olympic managed its 57th minute winner.

It was even less of a shock that Refenes played the crucial hand in the goal, spearing in a dipping 16-metre shot which MacLaren did well to stretch out with his left hand only to see the ball hob free into the path of Edwards and the latter had only to push the ball over the line.

We waited patiently for a tentative and almost anxious Hellas to spark into life.

Although the embers of a memorable 1990 campaign by Hellas still flickered, the flame was extinguished long before the end of Sunday's final.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: MacLaren 7, Healy 6, Postecoglou 5, Durakovic 7, Blair 7, Wright 4 (Palatsides 68), Petersen 6, Wade 7, Taliadoros 5, Trimboli 6, Tsolakis 5.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 7, Barrett 6, Hooker 5, Dakos 6, Bernal 6, Ironside 6, Phillips 7, Refenes 7 (Hristodoulou 88), Lee 7, Saad 4, Edwards 6.

SCORER: Edwards 57m for Olympic.
REFEREE: G. Power 6.
CROWD: 5625.

The worst possible scenario for Hellas

BY GREG BLAKE

SOUTH Melbourne Hellas spent the entire season firmly entrenched in the final five, it didn't lose successive fixtures during the home and away season, it hadn't lost a home game all year and, according to expert locals, Hellas circa 1990 was the best team from Middle Park since 1984.

In contrast, Sydney Olympic limped into the fifth play-off place in the final round of the season, it hadn't beaten Hellas in Melbourne since 1979, it has struggled away from home all season (its away record was bettered by eight other clubs) and, just 10 days beforehand, Hellas had given Olympic a mother and father of a hiding in the cup final — and at the same venue, if you don't mind.

Given the above scenario it is clear that Olympic's upset 1-0 win in the minor semi-final at Olympic Park on Sunday will go down in the history books as a turn-up in NSL folklore.

And now Olympic, surely the ugliest girl at the NSL dance, is set to get an invitation to 1990's most exclusive cocktail party on May 20, with only Melbourne Croatia standing between it and a second successive showdown with Marconi at Parramatta Stadium.

And a second grand final showdown is not beyond this fighting Olympic unit which, after being taught a lesson by Hellas in the cup final, showed that it had learned its lesson very, very well indeed.



Gerry Gomez wins this aerial duel at Melbourne Croatia's expense in last Sunday's major semi-final HECTOR CARRASCO pic.

Every week has been a cup final for Olympic in recent weeks and, as Mike Hickman suggested after the game, his team is well and truly accustomed to the finals pressure which was, as much as anything else, surely the downfall of a Hellas team capable of much better.

Whilst Hellas stumbled, Olympic revelled in the heady atmosphere of the cut-throat game.

"We've been doing well for the past four or five games I suppose," said Hickman, who admitted to being elated at the drought-breaking Melbourne win.

"We're tired and we've taken a few knocks but it is good that we've played together so consistently for six games."

"They're really starting to know what they're doing and they are working really hard for each other."

He doesn't need me or anyone else to pry about the missed chances as he stands there with a towel around his waist, shivering and playing the game over and over again in his mind.

How do you approach skipper Angie Postecoglou as he lies prone on the cold floor, an ice-pack across his leg and looking for all the world like he wishes he was anywhere else but at Olympic Park, right here, right now.

Puskas tries his best. "Don't worry, it's too late now," he bellows.

"Don't worry — next time."

And, perhaps, that's all they have to console themselves with.

That is their only fixed point in a world that, for them at least, has tilted on its axis for the time being.

At least, there is always next year.

Perhaps it will all come right next year

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Glory may beckon Olympic

BY MIKE JOHNSON

SYDNEY Olympic is set to become one of the teams of the nineties.

Given management stability, its current playing staff could bring it outstanding success in the early years of this decade.

Midfield: GARY PHILLIPS, experienced and now playing his best football ever. ROBBIE IRONSIDE, New Zealand international. ANDREW BERNAL, experienced, competitive and very impressive during his midfield

staff is the best I can remember in Olympic's history, needing possibly only a top midfielder to go into next season.

As always, it will be quality of management which will determine whether it builds on the current staff to

people, mostly Greeks.

What a hub-hub that caused, and it seems that since that time the agitation has never died down.

There always seems to be some sort of crisis at Olympic.

Although it must be

Mick seems clear.

He seems the spokesman on playing matters and one assumes he trains the team, picks it and sets the playing strategy.

Peter's role seems less clearly defined.

Was it he who signed Scott Ollerenshaw from St George, or was it on Mick's request, or did club president George Pashalis deem it necessary that Olympic have Ollerenshaw?

Certainly, it was an important decision as it cost the club some \$40,000.

Greek men are great self-employed workers, great small businessmen and even great entrepreneurs, but many find it hard to work in concert.

Most seem to want to hold the baton, to be the conductor, rather than play the flute or the tambourine.

Whilst St George, with puny crowd support, has managed to stay alive, keep financial and win trophies over the last two and a half decades, Olympic has staggered from one crisis to another.

St George's Alex Pongrass has been its president for all of its history and Frank Arok its manage-coach for much of its recent history.

One could not guess at the number of presidents and coaches who have handled Olympic's affairs during the last two decades.

Certainly, it is now necessary for the Olympic management to be united and stable to take advantage of the wonderful playing staff now assembled at the club.

Is Mick Hickman the one to give the club success and stability it needs on the playing field?

Can the current president maintain wise and stable management in the board room?

I do not know either of these men.

Mick Hickman seems a calm and determined personality whose team has done pretty well during his time in charge.

George Pashalis seems to have kept a low profile during his tenure in office and that may be a good thing.

Consistency, stability, determination, plus commonsense spiced with inspiration, are ingredients of sound management.

Let's hope Sydney Olympic can take advantage of its current opportunity and eventually fulfill the potential that has always been available to it.

conceded that this has subsided in recent years.

The three-year reign of Eddie Thomson brought more stability and consistency to the club, though he had to juggle with numerous players before he found a winning combination toward the end of last year.

The current depth and quality of Olympic's playing staff owes much to him.

His leaving, of course, did produce another public Olympic crisis, which was finally resolved with Mick Hickman and Peter Raskopoulos ensconced as coach and manager respectively.

Currently the role of

challenge Marconi for supremacy in NSW and perhaps even Australia.

Quality of management is something that Sydney Olympic has not been renowned for during its rather short history.

In its infancy, during season 1963, the year I came to Australia, my Wollongong team, South Coast United, played Olympic (then called Pan Hellenic) in the semi-final of the end-of-season play-off series.

Playing for them was subsequent Department of Aboriginal Affairs head Charles Perkins, then a good midfielder player.

We hammered them 7-1 in front of 20,000

spell this season. STEVE REFENES, a fast exciting, wide player.

Strikers: SCOTT OLLERENSHAW, young international. ABBAS SAAD, young international. MARKO PERINOVIC, good back-up striker and goalgetter. ALISTAIR EDWARDS, a prospect with an exciting future.

The club's huge nursery of young players ensures that Olympic always has top juniors coming through.

Their under 19 team invariably is a winning team, as was the case last season.

The current playing

Take a look at the players now available to Olympic.

Defenders: Goalie CLINT GOSLING, New Zealand international, currently rated third best in the National League. DAVID BARRETT, highly rated under 19 international. STEVE GEORGAKIS, young and knocking on the door of the national team. NICK PLATANOTIS, very young and already a tremendous competitor. TONY DAKOS, experienced defender. ROBBIE HOOKER, a cultured international defender who has been in the national team this year.

Apia searching for a marksman

APIA Leichhardt coach Manfred Schaefer is on the look-out for a goal-scoring striker to boost his side for next season, following the club's elimination from the 1989/90 QNSL competition.



MANFRED SCHAEFER — prepared to invest on a goal scorer next season.

Apia spent most of the summer season in the top five, but was edged out of the last semi-final spot by Sydney Olympic on goal-difference.

A shortage of goals proved Apia's downfall.

Injuries to key strikers Ron Manley and Rod Brown left Apia desperately short of scoring punch in the closing rounds of the competition.

"If we had somebody up front we probably would have stayed in the top five," said Schaefer.

"I've definitely got to fill certain positions, as we've got to give ourselves a little bit of depth if we're going to be serious challengers next season.

"I'll look for a striker, and I'll be looking at another midfielder player too.

"We really don't have any big names, so maybe that's something I've got to consider."

Schaefer said the new board had

assured him there was money for him to spend on strengthening his side.

"There's no way I will go out and buy a team, because there's no need for that," he said.

"But there's certainly a need to buy two or three players."

Apia, written off before the season by most of the pundits, performed well above expectations.

"For quite a part of the season we led the competition, which was not expected," Schaefer said.

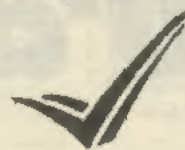
"Even to be in the top five for 80-90 percent of the season wasn't expected."

Apia held a three-point lead over Olympic going into the last two rounds, but lost to top-three teams Marconi and Melbourne Croatia by the odd goal in three.

— **ADRIAN WARREN**, courtesy Eastern edition of the SYDNEY MORNING HERALD.

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SOCCER POOLS

THE POOLS

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST WEEK 250 SAT. 12th MAY, 1990

ALTONA CITY	NORTHCOAST	1
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	2
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	3
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	4
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	5
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	6
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	7
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CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	33
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	34
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	35
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	36
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	37
CHATELAIN CITY	ROBINSON	38

RESERVE MATCHES

CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	38
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	39
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	40
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	41
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	42
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	43
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	44
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	45
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CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	61
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	62
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	63
CLAYTON	HOLLAND FC	64

* VICTORIA STATE LEAGUE
* SOUTHERN TASMANIA DIVISION 1

Jackpot this week est \$450,000

MATCH RESULTS WEEK 249 SAT. 5th MAY, 1990

CRYSTAL P.	MAN. CITY	1-2*
DERBY	LUTON	2-3
MAN. UTD.	CHARLTON	3-1-0
MILLWALL	CHELSEA	4-1-3
Q.P.R.	WIMBLEDON	5-2-3
SHEFF. WED.	NOTTINGHAM F.	6-0-3
TOTTENHAM	SOUTHAMPTON	7-2-1
BLACKBURN	BRIGHTON	8-1-1*
BOURNEMOUTH	LEEDS	9-0-1
BRADFORD C.	PLYMOUTH	10-0-1
LEICESTER	SHEFF. UTD.	11-2-5
MIDDLESBRO	NEWCASTLE	12-4-1
OXFORD UTD.	PORT VALE	13-0-0*
PORTSMOUTH	BARNLEY	14-2-1
STOKE	SWINDON	15-1-1*
SUNDERLAND	OLDHAM	16-2-3*
WATFORD	HULL	17-3-1
WEST BROM.	IPSWICH	18-1-3
WEST HAM	WOLVES	19-4-0
BIRMINGHAM	READING	20-0-1
BLACKPOOL	BRISTOL R.	21-0-3
BRISTOL R.	ROTHERHAM	22-4-0
BRISTOL C.	WALSALL	23-2-0
BURY	CARDIFF	24-3-2
CREWE	WIGAN A.	25-1-2
FULHAM	LEYTON O.	26-4-1
HUDDERSFIELD	CHESTER	27-4-2
NOTTS C.	MANSFIELD	28-2-0
ROTHERHAM	NORTHAMPTON	29-2-0
SHREWSBURY	PRESTON	30-0-0*
SWANSEA	BOLTON	31-2-2*
TRANMERE	BRENTFORD	32-0-2
ALDRISHT	CAMBRIDGE U.	33-2-0
CHESTERFIELD	GRIMSBY	34-1-2
COLCHESTER	BURNLEY	35-1-2
HALIFAX	STOCKPORT	36-1-5
LINCOLN	EXETER	37-5-2
MAIDSTONE	CARLISLE	38-1-2

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 7/5/90 — WEEK 249

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED	NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED
25 31 38 15 30 45 35 45	0 1 11 3 7 6 7 0
45 56 49 51 46 49 51 45	1 2 8 8 0 1 0 0
48 45 35 51 47 51 52 48	1 5 9 5 3 1 4 4
47 55 53 62 54 72 53 51	3 6 2 4 3 0 0 14
49 65 36 65 52 52	18 1 4 7 6 2

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 249 SAT 5 MAY, 1990

Total Prize Pool is \$374,798.19
Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order): 1, 8, 13, 15, 30, 31.
Supplementary Number: 16

Division 1
The Prize Pool is \$292,894.69
No Winner. Jackpot Week 250
(est \$450,000 next week)

Division 2
The Prize Pool is \$4,683.30
2 provisional winners of \$2,341.65ea

Division 3
The Prize Pool is \$14,050.80
54 winners of \$260.20ea

Division 4
The Prize Pool is \$35,135.65
2,123 winners of \$16.55ea

Division 5
The Prize Pool is \$28,033.75
2,735 winners of \$10.25ea

BRITISH SOCCER RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH FIRST DIVISION	FINAL TABLE	ENGLISH DIVISION ONE	ENGLISH DIVISION TWO	ENGLISH DIVISION THREE	ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR	ENGLISH DIVISION FIVE	ENGLISH DIVISION SIX	ENGLISH DIVISION SEVEN	ENGLISH DIVISION EIGHT	ENGLISH DIVISION NINE	ENGLISH DIVISION TEN	ENGLISH DIVISION ELEVEN	ENGLISH DIVISION TWELVE	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTEEN	ENGLISH DIVISION FOURTEEN	ENGLISH DIVISION FIFTEEN	ENGLISH DIVISION SIXTEEN	ENGLISH DIVISION SEVENTEEN	ENGLISH DIVISION EIGHTEEN	ENGLISH DIVISION NINETEEN	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY ONE	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY TWO	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY THREE	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY FOUR	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY FIVE	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY SIX	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY SEVEN	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY EIGHT	ENGLISH DIVISION TWENTY NINE	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY ONE	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY TWO	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY THREE	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY FOUR	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY FIVE	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY SIX	ENGLISH DIVISION THIRTY 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RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide, Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

For Past Results and Historical Data on The Pools, write to: T.M.S. P.O. Box 2937 DD GPO Melbourne 3001, Or Phone (03) 328 3345.

See State League action this week!

NSW clubs ready for 1990 kick-off

BY PAUL GOODWIN



THE NSW Challenge Cup has stuttered to a close with some clubs forced to cram as many as nine games into a nine day period for their two sides.

Others whose fixtures did not affect the final outcome of their group elected either not to play the balance of their games or to play them as trials.

The five National League clubs fielding teams will offer curiosity value to the State League's regular supporters who will wait with interest to see the composition of those sides facing their own in the early rounds.

Also, the issue of promotion for one NSW State League club to the National League is a major item at stake, with the winners of the competition not necessarily the promoted club.

The composite nature of the points score, combining as it does the points collected by all clubs in

both conferences, is contentious, with many clubs of the opinion that the two sections are unbalanced in terms of playing strength.

Favourites for promotion at this early stage appear to be Canberra Croatia which carried all before it in the pre-season games.

Newcastle's BHP Austral is quietly confident that it can better the team from the nation's capital while Wollongong Macedonia has a 'promotion or bust' attitude to the winter season.

Others who will not be denied a first rate chance of succeeding are Blacktown City who see their loss of NSL status as only a hiccup and fully expect to be back in the big time next summer.

These are the chief contenders in the promotion race, while most other State League sides of old are determined to put on a good show and knock off a few NSL clubs during the season.

As for the NSL clubs, Marconi must be fancied to add a State League title to their National League minor premiership,

with Paul Degney assigned the specialist coaching duties there. Sydney Olympic and Sydney Croatia appear to offer the most likely threat, with Croatia drawing, on paper, the easier group.

Wollongong City will compete, but will not wish to stretch their resources too far bearing in mind the demands of the coming summer season.

St George will, no doubt, have a lot to say as well, with Frank Arok always ready to prove that his youngsters can do the job for him.

Avala are going through a period of turmoil. Two coaches, Tony Henderson and Mike Urukalo have left the club already this year along with a number of players and assistant coach Danny Blunusa is holding the reins until another man can be appointed.

Two candidates are currently being considered for the job and there are still some good players at the Serbian backed club.

Miladin Kuc, a 27-year-old centre forward from Yugoslav second division club



GRAHAM ARNOLD — back in the Sutherland colours as a guest player this winter — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

Zamun is already in the side and when he adjusts to the local game will be a great asset. Radovic, a former colleague at Zamun, is in his second year and is a useful defender. He has now settled down here, having married an Australian girl.

Paul Welch transferred from Blacktown City and Steve Meades from Sutherland while Avala still hopes to persuade John McKie to play in their colours this year.

In addition, the club, which will play its eight home games at Melita Stadium while the finishing touches are being put to the new ground at the Serbian Centre, is keen to take up its option of signing two NSL players on loan, with midfielders high on the list.

Canterbury-Mar-rickville had a final shakedown game with Warringah scheduled for Sunday before stepping out at its spectacularly well-grassed Arlington Oval headquarters.

Tony Dakos is expected to be in the side, the only uncertainty being his status as either a loan player or a full member of the squad.

If he does become a permanent signing, then the club will sign another loan player but at this stage Marshall Soper is the other

player expected to guest this year once details have been ironed out.

In addition, two visa players from Greece, both from first division side Panionios, are expected soon. They are defender Chris Koutropoulos and left side midfielder George Kapouranis who could link with West Adelaide's Richard Miranda if negotiations are successful.

Sutherland are proud to have Graham Arnold back in a Shire shirt after his years with first Canterbury and then Croatia. Arnold approached the club, wishing to put something back into a club with which he spent his representative days.

Sutherland are also pleased that their new lighting, courtesy of the licensed club, will be installed within a

matter of days, replacing the original lights which have given good service.

Costing \$30,000, the lights will be just short of television standard but a vast and welcome improvement on the old set.

Sydney Macedonia is sticking with the side which carried it to promotion from Second Division last year. Stars such as Fabian Kadric and Scott Gilbert in the forward line will make a big impression and the like of Jorge Fernandez, Leo Arcosa and Sasha Spirovski are more than capable of making the transition.

At this stage there are no plans to feature loan players but there are two new faces in the side - Chris Card, an energetic runner has transferred from Yugal, and brilliant goalkeeper Antoine Avellino who trialled with Wimbledon a few months back, has joined from Campbelltown Vikings.

Rockdale Ilinden is awaiting the return of its coach John Fleming from overseas where he attended a bereavement, before naming its squad. Many players have trialled and a final selection was due to be made early this week.

Meanwhile, new signing Peter Willis has been looking after affairs and other fresh faces include Jim Campbell and Borce Krkovski.

Wollongong Macedonia is determined to win the league and with it promotion at all costs.

They already have a strong side and despite the setback of losing goalkeeper Warwick Young with a broken leg and another with a broken arm, will not rest until they have assembled a promotion winning team.

Warringah Freshwater has Steven Knight back from St George where he was on loan and Alan Dean is awaited back from a similar arrangement to fill his central defensive role.

Polonia and North Shore United will field similar sides to last season and can both be expected to cause a few upsets from time to time without having the potential to carry off the title.

Much the same can be said of Inter Monaro who are not often good travellers but are usually solid at their home ground of Marco Polo.

SUTHERLAND 0 SYD MACEDONIA 2

HASTILY organised for Seymour Shaw Park on Tuesday last week, it was essential to play this game to ensure that visitors Macedonia had every possible chance to qualify for the final.

They also had to fit in an Under 19 fixture in Wollongong the following night and two games against North Shore United at the same venue on Friday before embarking on a hurried trip to Canberra on Sunday.

All this for a club of part-timers, including an Under 19 side comprising many students and trade apprentices.

Sydney Macedonia, without injured Avellino and Card, ran out 2-0 winners in first grade, goals coming in the 35th and 88th minutes.

Fabian Kadric scored the first when he finished a move begun by Sasha Spirovski which led to a Fernandez cross that was steered home.

Spirovski grabbed the second after a free kick by Kadric had been pushed on to the post by Paul Dart and the midfielder was on hand to tap in from close range.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE: Dart, Webber, Sellar, Biscaya (Phillips), Terry, O'Shea, Hutcheon, Sharp (Walker), Brandtman, Rothwell (Christodoutou), Bard.
SYDNEY MACEDONIA: Golovadonovski, Souras, Baillie, Reveley, Pilovski, Fernandez, Kotsias (Genovesi), Arcosa, Spirovski, Kadric, Gilbert.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION LTD

DIVISION 2

SATURDAY 12TH MAY

SSC Yugal v Campbelltown Vik Mona Park

DIVISION 3

North Ryde RSL v Concordia Magdala Park
West Wanderers v Bathurst '75 Harold Read Res

SUNDAY 13TH MAY

CONFERENCE A

Warringah v Sydney Macedonia Cromer Park
Wollongong City v Avala Brandon Park
Marconi v BHP Austral Marconi Oval*

*possible deferment

CONFERENCE B

Inter Monaro v North Shore Utd Marco Polo
Sutherland Shire v Wollongong Mac Seymour Shaw
Blacktown City v Polonia Gabble Stadium
Sydney Croatia — bye

DIVISION 2

Petersham v Fairfield City Erskineville Oval
Southern Dist v Central Coast Ernie Smith Res
Rosebery v Dulwich Hill ES Marks Field
Orange Waratahs v Gladesville H'by Waratah Sports Gd
Mt Druitt Town v Granville Chile Popondetta Park
Manly Warringah v Waverley Cromer Park

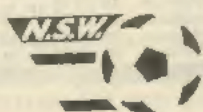
DIVISION 3

Uni of NSW v Mt Pritchard Little Bay Oval
Lemnos Allstars v Canterbury & Dist Camperdown Oval
Port Hacking v Cyprus United Mona Park
Hills United v Bankstown Fred Caterson

All games kick-off 3pm with U19 at 1pm, with BHP Austral 2.30pm and 12.30pm, unless otherwise stated.

WEDNESDAY 16TH MAY

St George v Canterbury (6pm, 8pm) St George Stadium
(Sydney Olympic v Rockdale deferred to Wed May 23)



**FOR OTHER LATEST NSW
NEWS REFER PAGE 20**

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

INFORMATION DIALLING SERVICES

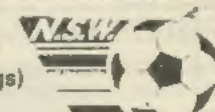
★ **RESULTS:** 0055 22681

(after 7pm Sunday evenings)

★ **FIXTURES:** 0055 22682

★ **WEATHER & GROUNDS:** 0055 22683

Ring for the latest news on ALL Divisions!



Victorian Super League still out in the cold

BY GREG BLAKE

THE Victorian Soccer Federation is set to persist with its plan to form a State 'Super League' despite a surprise set-back to the proposed new competition last Thursday night.

majority needed to pass the amendments. It is believed that at least three current struggling State League clubs voted against the proposal.

Officials of NSL club Sunshine George Cross left the meeting without voting on the proposed change. Two

over the combined major leagues.

That motion was defeated 62 votes to 38.

Ironically had that proposal been carried it would have meant that the Victorian leagues would have retained equal voting rights with the senior leagues regardless of future changes at NSL



Denis Bergam and Richard Milanovic (10) of Melbourne Croatia in action against Altona Gate in a National Youth League playoff at Olympic Park on 29 April, 1990. Photo: Roy Hay.

At a special meeting of the Victorian Soccer Federation, clubs knocked back proposed amendments to the VSF constitution that would have enabled the 12 team competition to go ahead next season.

It was the third such rebuff for the Super League concept but the vote of 67 for and 26 against has encouraged four clubs to push for another vote on the proposed changes after the 28 days required for notification.

The 67-26 vote was just three short of the required 75 per cent

NSL votes were informal.

The meeting had earlier rejected an amendment to the proposed original amendment which proposed two State League divisions of 12 teams each for next season with the top six of each forming a Super League in 1992.

Also rejected was a proposal to amend the voting rights disparity between the Victorian Leagues and the State League and NSL clubs.

Currently, the Vic Leagues carry a marginal voting advantage

or State League level.

As it stands, if the State League is increased to two divisions of 12 or 14 clubs, the combined voting rights of NSL and State League clubs would then outnumber those of the Vic League.

Unless the proposed changes to the State League set-up go ahead, the VSF is locked into a 17, 18 or 19 team State League for next year, dependent on promotion or relegation from the NSL.

The full story on the VSF showdown will be in ASW next week.

VSF has to help Geelong

BY VALDO VLANOVIC

LEADING Geelong soccer club North Geelong is suffering mass exodus hangover from last year's Second Division championship squad, as some nine regular players have departed the scene.

Just recently the club signed former Rothman's Medal winner and St. Albans coach Branko Culina, with the promise of a few quick signings to haul the club out of dire straights.

At least three players have joined State League sides which poses a couple of important questions discussed further into this article.

After five rounds of its inaugural First Division campaign, North Geelong is wallowing at the bottom of the table without a single point to its name.

The departures are as follows: left-back Robert Cosic and fellow defender Jack Caran both joined ambitious State League outfit, Albion.

Skilled midfielder Patrick Alilovic joined former teammate, Frank Simovic, who has already spent a successful but somewhat injury-riddled season at highly-rated St Albans.

Veteran striker Danny Ward left to join struggling Maribyrnong Polonia and Former Irish 'B' international Paul Masterton returned home!

Both first choice keeper Rheiner Reibin and defender Colin Cooper have returned to original club Altona City.

Veteran Garry Cutler has also left and finally, North Geelong's most prolific goalscorer, John Hrkac also left recently to join cross-town rivals Geelong City in the Second Division.

Two important

points emerge from this untimely exodus.

Club officialdom in Geelong soccer circles can now take note that not just one or two but several Geelong products are competing successfully in Victoria's highest league.

This includes former Geelong City striker Darren Tuck, now with leading State League side, Bulleen, the rich Italian-backed outfit with NSL aspirations.

More impressively, Tuck was leading goalscorer with seven goals after seven rounds of competition!

Perhaps now more than ever before there is a case for a united Geelong outfit to enter into the proposed 'Super League' next year or the year after!

Of course, much compromise and organization by the leading clubs would be required. Is anybody out there who fits the bill?

In the past season, two Geelong clubs competed in the National Youth League (Southern Division) for the first time.

Naturally, more promising Geelong youngsters will be lost to higher clubs more frequently now that the players have wider exposure unless, of course, they have an incentive to stay!

The other major point to arise from the player exodus is the continual failure of the VSF to move with the times.

The VSF doesn't recognise loans like other Australian State Federations.

Thus it is ruining a perfect opportunity for clubs like North Geelong to offset its losses by loaning some senior or Youth NSL players during the NSL season.

All clubs would

Backing for Victorian Industrial & Amateurs

BY GREG BLAKE

IN a gala ceremony on Melbourne's 'Yarra Empress' last week, the ambitious Industrial and Amateur League of Victoria announced its new sponsor for the 1990 season.



The Review Group is backing the hard-working Industrial and Amateur League with \$10,000 for the new season and, according to league representative Bill Brickell, the lucrative deal assures the future of one of Victoria's best run competitions.

"We couldn't be happier with the deal and our association with the Review Group," said Brickell.

"Review Group general manager Peter Sneddon is a man who has faith in the league and they've backed their faith with hard-earned cash."

Over 150 guests attended the launch of the new sponsorship deal, including Soccer-oos Mike Petersen and Paul Trimboli, host and ABC personality Peter Gee, top referees Chris Cambridge and Denis Voutsinas and special guest, former Olympian and current director of Melbourne's

Olympic Games bid, David Dickson.

VSF President John Dimtsis also attended the evening and he praised the League for its "innovative and professional" approach to running its competitions.

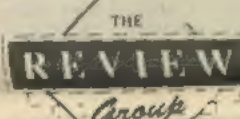
"It is hard not to be impressed with the way they organise themselves," said Dimtsis.

Brickell told ASW that despite the amateur status of the league, the backing of the Review Group was vital to keeping the competition functioning.

"Of course, we have hundreds of players playing the game for the love of it and people at the clubs are putting in every week," he said.

"But this type of backing is still essential to us."

Review Group spokesman Doug Constable presented the league with the cheque and told the audience that his firm was pleased to be associated with soccer for the first time.



"It's a great opportunity to be involved with sport and a way for us to put something back into society," said Constable.

"We feel that we are contributing something worthwhile to the youth of Australia."

appreciate the loan system just to add a bit of depth to their squads.

It would also benefit promising NSL youth players needing the senior competition to

help their own cause for their future push for NSL senior inclusion.

Here's a real chance for the VSF to improve its popularity by recognising the sadly lacking loan player principle.

Give women soccer a go!



I have just had a great coaching experience in spending the Easter weekend at the AIS coaching the Australian Women's Soccer side.

I was there to assist Steve Darby, the national coach, and to help put on a Level 2 course for the National squad.

Many of them will complete their Level 2

this year and promise to be very capable coaches.

The spirit in the squad was fantastic, the playing ability outstanding and the coaching standard above average.

But the National Women's side needs more support.

Last year they toured Japan and were unbeaten. Next year they hope to play in the first World Cup.

Have you watched a women's State League game?

Have you attended a National Under 19 or Under 16 title?

What are your views on women's soccer. Why don't you have a look at a top game this year?

Your opinion on the

standard and ability is likely to change and please don't say "It's not a women's game".

Give it a go!



Chris James - Illawarra Regional Director of Coaching.



National Youth League (Southern Division): Grand Finalist: Altona Gate back row left to right: Steve Trajkovski (coach), Mauro Raso, Nick Madarovski, Robert Trifunovski, Robert Veljanovski, Tony Grozdanovski, Ljube Trajceviski, Tony Necevski, Steve Markovski, Bill Lozanovski (manager). Front row: Danny Stresnjak, Steve Zdravevski, Marjan Tasevski, Goran Lozanovski, Sashar Simovski, Trajce Latomanski, Marjan Joveski. Photo: Roy Hay.

Third World status forever?

AS always I read your columns with great interest because to paraphrase an old cliché, you can get me out of soccer but you can't get soccer out of me.

Your reference to the ASF Marketing's role in 'summer soccer' brings back memories.

It was in 1978 that, examining from afar the then booming American scene, I began to suspect that this had something to do with their clever strategy of avoiding a clash with the more popular football (US version), basketball and ice hockey.

At the end of 1979 I travelled to America and talked to many NASL and ASL officials (both now defunct, as is ASF Marketing).

Summer soccer

Early 1980, when SOCCER WORLD woke from its summer slumber, I wrote a series of four articles, strongly proposing a switch of our seasons in Australia.

I followed this with further promptings in my weekly column 'Pressbox'.

In July, ASF Marketing began to show some interest — after Frank Lowy (as well as Wilhe Wallace and Eddie Thomson) openly supported the idea.

Later that year, ASF Marketing actually incorporated the 'summer soccer' idea into their special report.

Without, of course, sourcing their material or idea.

However, both Rik Booth and Frank admitted that they borrowed it from my SW pieces.

That's all, really. I don't claim to have invented the wheel; I borrowed the idea myself from the USA.

But — and this prompted me to write — ASF Marketing did not come up with the original suggestion at all.

It's a different story.



FRANK AROK: will Joe Venglos will as strong and independent a thinker if he gets the Socceroo coaching job?

of course, how many people opposed it; one soccer writer even claimed there would be 'death in the afternoon'.

Joe Venglos

Now, something else.

I totally agree with you that Joe Venglos would be easily the best choice for Frank Arok's forcibly vacated seat.

But what has Joe done to deserve such a fate?

The more he is portrayed as a strong, independent thinker, the more certain it is our administrators will shy away from him.

That's exactly the last thing they want — what, another Arok?

A Slovak clone — if not a Czech mate?

The man they seek will be part of the establishment, happy to play golf midweek.

watching a few games at weekends, play a few internationals a year and draw a nice salary.

And if we fail at the World Cup? Well, we would probably fail anyway, so why get your strides into a knot, as they say in downtown Clarence Street or wherever the ASF is now.

Ethnics

One more.

I agree with you and other cool-headed observers that the current ethnic-oriented, flag-waving NSL is doomed to complete apathy by the Australian majority.

I also agree that it's pathetic to translate arguments about the background of Alexander the Great onto the football terraces.

The only solution to troublemakers that may have a small chance of success — may, I repeat — is the abolition of ethnic clubs altogether.

Not the names, not the colours, not the flags — but the clubs.

Any other change is temporary and cosmetic, as we have seen throughout the years with the Hakoahs, Yugals, Croatias, etc.

What would happen, without a Sydney Olympic, Croatia, Preston Makedonia, etc?

Well, to start with you'd shed their support, most of which hangs around these teams not to celebrate soccer but to display, with their friends and families, their raw form of patriotism.

It's rather difficult to understand why they are so patriotic when

forced to become 'economic emigres', rejected by their own state as unwanted, surplus floatsam.

Anyway, there would be no Croatia, no Olympic, no Makedonia, etc.

What would you have?

Well, you could try to build up, once again, the various district clubs, the Canterbury, Bankstown, Auburns, etc.

Perhaps this time they could have a better chance, especially if they managed to attach themselves to licensed clubs in their areas.

The crowd figures would decline sharply, at least for a number of years.

Only the true soccer fan would stick with the game; those for whom a soccer match is merely a chance for mob behaviour would drop out.

A loss? Hardly. I begin to suspect that only a drastic solution, a tabula rasa as the Latins would say, can save our soccer from firmly becoming the pastime of migrant minorities, replaying on our terraces, centuries of Holy Wars among their tribes.

Let's start at the beginning once again: let's go back to basics.

Maybe even then soccer would flounder.

maybe even the revival of district clubs wouldn't drag us out of our Third World (is there a Fourth World?) status.



FRANK LOWY

But it's worth a try — at least as much as summer soccer was.

We have nothing to lose, except our lunatic fringes.



Brazilian fans — ready to party again at Italia '90 as their team attempts to win an unprecedented fourth World Cup.

THE WARREN JOHNNY COLUMN



TWO LETTERS FROM OLD FRIENDS DURING THE WEEK — PROFESSOR WILLIAM LAWSON FROM BRAZIL, NOW COACHING IN QATAR, AND FORMER 'SOCCER WORLD' EDITOR ANDREW DETTRE.

LAWSON'S IS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF MARIO ZAGALO TAKING OVER THE QATAR NATIONAL TEAM AFTER HIS PROBLEMS IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, DETTRE'S REGARDING A HOST OF CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES IN THE AUSTRALIAN GAME.

Zagalo soon for Qatar

MARIO Zagalo, the mastermind of Brazil's World Cup victory 20 years ago, is ready to return to the Arabian Gulf as Qatar's senior coach.

Speaking from his home in Barra, an elite suburb of Rio, Zagalo said he was willing to coach Qatar.

"I am a professional and if the opportunity presented itself I would love to take up the challenge," he said.

The vacancy of a senior coach arose when his countryman Dino Sani was demoted from the senior to the under 21 squad.

Zagalo had heard about Sani's fate but seemed philosophical.

"It can happen to all of us. A coach's job is one of the most insecure in the world. It all depends on the results."

Sani's fate was sealed when Qatar lost 2-0 to hosts and Gulf Cup winners Kuwait in March.

Zagalo is no stranger to Gulf football.

He previously held coaching positions in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Although Zagalo guided the UAE to the World Cup in Italy, he was dismissed shortly afterwards.

The UAE stated the reason for the sacking was Zagalo had asked for more money.

Despite his swift departure from the UAE, Zagalo has fond memories of his days in the Emirates.

"There was a good team atmosphere. The players enjoyed their

football and were always willing to have a laugh... It was good that their attitude paid off so well with a World Cup appearance."

As a player, Zagalo appeared in the victorious Brazilian sides of 1958 and 1962.

Just before the 1970 World Cup in Mexico, Zagalo was appointed Brazil's coach.

At the time, there was tremendous opposition to his coaching tactics.

Many thought he placed too much emphasis on attack, allowing opponents to exploit Brazil's defence.

The fate of the national team took on a political significance as the government of the day spent millions of dollars to regain the trophy lost to England in 1966.

National prestige was on the line.

Zagalo, in what has been a hallmark of his coaching style, gave the players a simple instruction: "express yourselves."

It is now history the Brazil trounced Italy 4-1 in the final at Mexico's Azteca Stadium to win the World Cup for the third time.

Zagalo was succeeded by the UAE demise in the Gulf Cup and said he was sorry they did not play like they had in Singapore in the World Cup qualifiers.

"They did not do themselves justice," he said.

He could have added that they did not do justice to the nation who may soon gain Qatar's fortunes...

Kids! Don't miss it...

Johnny Warren appears on SBS Television on Tuesday afternoons as Captain Socceroo. Tune in at 4.30pm, and learn just how to keep your football improving.

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NEW SOUTH WALES



STATE



LEAGUE

CONFERENCE A

ROUND: 1 DATE: 12th/13th MAY

(Syd Ol deferred to May 23, Marconi possible change)

SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
MARCONI vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
WARRINGAH vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
WOLLONGONG CITY vs AVALA
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
BYE vs CANBERRA

ROUND: 2 DATE: 19th/20th MAY

CANBERRA vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs MARCONI
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
AVALA vs WARRINGAH
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs BYE

ROUND: 3 DATE: 2nd/3rd JUNE

SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs CANBERRA
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
MARCONI vs AVALA
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
WOLLONGONG CITY vs WARRINGAH
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
BYE vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA

ROUND: 4 DATE: 9th/10th JUNE

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
CANBERRA vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
WARRINGAH vs MARCONI
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
AVALA vs BYE

ROUND: 5 DATE: 16th/17th JUNE

SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs AVALA
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
CANBERRA vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
WOLLONGONG CITY vs MARCONI
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
BYE vs WARRINGAH

ROUND: 6 DATE: 23rd/24th JUNE

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
WARRINGAH vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
AVALA vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs CANBERRA
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
MARCONI vs BYE

ROUND: 7 DATE: 30th/1st JULY

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs MARCONI
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs WARRINGAH
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
CANBERRA vs AVALA
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
WOLLONGONG CITY vs BYE

ROUND: 8 DATE: 7th/8th JULY

MARCONI vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
WARRINGAH vs CANBERRA
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
AVALA vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
BYE vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC

ROUND: 9 DATE: 14th/15th JULY

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs WARRINGAH
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
CANBERRA vs MARCONI
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs AVALA
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs BYE

ROUND: 10 DATE: 21st/22nd JULY

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs MARCONI
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs WARRINGAH
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
AVALA vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
CANBERRA vs BYE

ROUND: 11 DATE: 28th/29th JULY

SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs CANBERRA
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
WOLLONGONG CITY vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
MARCONI vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
WARRINGAH vs AVALA
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
BYE vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL

ROUND: 12 DATE: 4th/5th AUGUST

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
CANBERRA vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
AVALA vs MARCONI
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
WARRINGAH vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs BYE

ROUND: 13 DATE: 11th/12th AUGUST

SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
WOLLONGONG CITY vs CANBERRA
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
MARCONI vs WARRINGAH
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
BYE vs AVALA

ROUND: 14 DATE: 18th/19th AUGUST

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs CANBERRA
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
AVALA vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
MARCONI vs WOLLONGONG CITY
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
WARRINGAH vs BYE

ROUND: 15 DATE: 25th/26th AUGUST

SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs WARRINGAH
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs AVALA
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
CANBERRA vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
WOLLONGONG CITY vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
BYE vs MARCONI

ROUND: 16 DATE: 1st/2nd SEPTEMBER

MARCONI vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
WARRINGAH vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
AVALA vs CANBERRA
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
SYDNEY MACEDONIA vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY JENSEN OVAL
BYE vs WOLLONGONG CITY

ROUND: 17 DATE: 8th/9th SEPTEMBER

B.H.P. AUSTRAL vs AVALA
SATURDAY AUSTRAL PARK
ROCKDALE ILINDEN vs MARCONI
SUNDAY HURSTVILLE OVAL
CANBERRA vs WARRINGAH
SUNDAY DEAKIN OVAL
WOLLONGONG CITY vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
SYDNEY OLYMPIC vs BYE
SUNDAY

ROUND: 18 DATE: 14th/15th SEPTEMBER

WOLLONGONG CITY vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
MARCONI vs CANBERRA
SUNDAY MARCONI OVAL
WARRINGAH vs B.H.P. AUSTRAL
SUNDAY CROMER PARK
AVALA vs SYDNEY MACEDONIA
SUNDAY SERBIAN CENTRE
BYE vs ROCKDALE ILINDEN

SOCCER FEDERATION



QUE ... DRAW

MATCH TIMES:
U/19 1.00 PM
1st GRADE 3.00 PM

BHP Austral games kick off at 2.30pm and 12.30pm.

Any changes to dates, grounds and times will be advertised in ASW each week.

CONFERENCE B

ROUND: 1 DATE: 12th/13th MAY

ST. GEORGE vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
INTER MONARO vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
BLACKTOWN CITY vs POLONIA
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
BYE vs SYDNEY CROATIA

ROUND: 2 DATE: 19th/20th MAY

SYDNEY CROATIA vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
WOLLONGONG MAC vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
POLONIA vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
CANTERBURY vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
NORTH SHORE UTD vs BYE

ROUND: 3 DATE: 2nd/3rd JUNE

ST. GEORGE vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
CANTERBURY vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
INTER MONARO vs POLONIA
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
BLACKTOWN CITY vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
BYE vs WOLLONGONG MAC

ROUND: 4 DATE: 9th/10th JUNE

WOLLONGONG MAC vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
NORTH SHORE UTD vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
SYDNEY CROATIA vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
POLONIA vs BYE

ROUND: 5 DATE: 16th/17th JUNE

ST. GEORGE vs POLONIA
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
CANTERBURY vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SATURDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
SYDNEY CROATIA vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
BLACKTOWN CITY vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
BYE vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE

ROUND: 6 DATE: 23rd/24th JUNE

SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
POLONIA vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
WOLLONGONG MAC vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
NORTH SHORE UTD vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
INTER MONARO vs BYE

ROUND: 7 DATE: 30th JUNE/1st JULY

ST. GEORGE vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
CANTERBURY vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
SYDNEY CROATIA vs POLONIA
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
NORTH SHORE UTD vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
BLACKTOWN CITY vs BYE

ROUND: 8 DATE: 7th/8th JULY

INTER MONARO vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
POLONIA vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
WOLLONGONG MAC vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
BYE vs ST. GEORGE

ROUND: 9 DATE: 14th/15th JULY

SYDNEY CROATIA vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
NORTH SHORE UTD vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
WOLLONGONG MAC vs POLONIA
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
ST. GEORGE vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
CANTERBURY vs BYE

ROUND: 10 DATE: 21st/22nd JULY

CANTERBURY vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
NORTH SHORE UTD vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
WOLLONGONG MAC vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
POLONIA vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
SYDNEY CROATIA vs BYE

ROUND: 11 DATE: 28th/29th JULY

ST. GEORGE vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
INTER MONARO vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs POLONIA
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
BLACKTOWN CITY vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
BYE vs NORTH SHORE UTD

ROUND: 12 DATE: 4th/5th AUGUST

NORTH SHORE UTD vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
SYDNEY CROATIA vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
POLONIA vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
WOLLONGONG MAC vs BYE

ROUND: 13 DATE: 11th/12th AUGUST

ST. GEORGE vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
CANTERBURY vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
INTER MONARO vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
BLACKTOWN CITY vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
BYE vs POLONIA

ROUND: 14 DATE: 18th/19th AUGUST

POLONIA vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
WOLLONGONG MAC vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
NORTH SHORE UTD vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
INTER MONARO vs BLACKTOWN CITY
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs BYE

ROUND: 15 DATE: 25th/26th AUGUST

ST. GEORGE vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY ST. GEORGE STADIUM
CANTERBURY vs POLONIA
SATURDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
SYDNEY CROATIA vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
BLACKTOWN CITY vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
BYE vs INTER MONARO

ROUND: 16 DATE: 1st/2nd SEPTEMBER

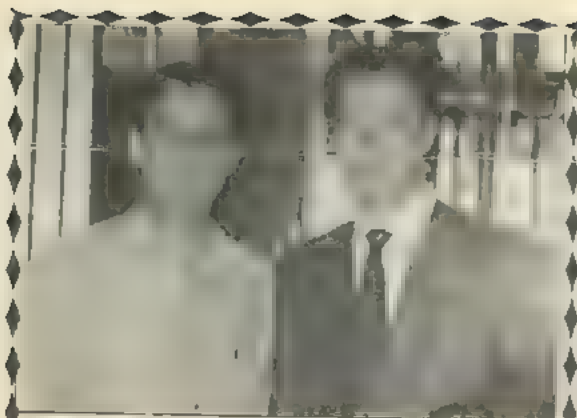
INTER MONARO vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs CANTERBURY
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
POLONIA vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
WOLLONGONG MAC vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY BRANDON PARK
BYE vs BLACKTOWN CITY

ROUND: 17 DATE: 8th/9th SEPTEMBER

CANTERBURY vs INTER MONARO
SUNDAY ARLINGTON OVAL
SYDNEY CROATIA vs SUTHERLAND SHIRE
SUNDAY CROATIAN SPORTS
NORTH SHORE UTD vs POLONIA
SUNDAY CHATSWOOD OVAL
BLACKTOWN CITY vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
ST. GEORGE vs BYE

ROUND: 18 DATE: 15th/16th SEPTEMBER

INTER MONARO vs SYDNEY CROATIA
SUNDAY MARCO POLO
SUTHERLAND SHIRE vs NORTH SHORE UTD
SUNDAY SEYMOUR SHAW
POLONIA vs WOLLONGONG MAC
SUNDAY CHOPIN PARK
BLACKTOWN CITY vs ST. GEORGE
SUNDAY GABBIE STADIUM
BYE vs CANTERBURY



Two peas in a pod? The man on the left is ASW columnist Frank Scicluna. At right ... can you guess? Well, it's all time great Franz Beckenbauer. Frank chanced upon a meeting with the famous West German coach and former superstar when he was checking up on his German squad members. The occasion was last year's Roma — Inter match in Rome.

FRANK Farina has politely declined any suggestions he might appear for the Soccerroos against Hajduk Split next month. After steering FC Brugge to the Belgian title and winning the goalscoring crown, Farina will indeed be coming home during the European summer break, but only for an extended holiday in his native Northern Queensland. Accompanying him will be girl friend Julie.

BRIAN Garvey has quit as coach of Adelaide Helix. He was to have coached the relegated QNSL team in the current South Australian State League. His resignation was announced after the players were told to play for themselves. Garvey's last match was a 1-1 draw against Adelaide United.

Contrary to earlier reports, the ACT's recent 1-1 draw with Indonesia was not the first time it has met a full national side. Canberra Juventus coach Walter Valeri advises that in the

early 1970s an ACT squad, consisting entirely of players from local league clubs, toured Fiji, beating the home side 2-0 and drawing 2-2.

THE Soccerroos may be involved in a triangular tournament with England and New Zealand next June as part of the NZFA's centenary celebrations. ASF general-secretary Alan Vessey will have talks with EnglishFA officials while in Italy for the FIFA Congress early next month.

Sydney's Gladesville-Hornsby Football Association and Second Division Club are rejoicing over last Sunday's opening ceremony for the magnificent Christie Park complex at North Ryde. There was a reunion of former players, including the district's first ever representative team. The job was completed thanks to the effort and support of Ryde Municipal Council, aided by

a NSW Dept of Sports and Recreation grant and a big injection of funds from the association itself. Well over 5,000 players turn out in the district's competitions.

ZELJKO Adzic has advised Sydney Croatia that he had signed his contract with Dinamo Zagreb last week and he was confident his first team debut was due any time now. Melbourne Croatia are asking \$50,000 for their star player and 50 percent of any subsequent transfer he may undertake from Dinamo.

EDDIE KRNEVIC will be back in Belgium next year. He is leaving relegated French side Mulhouse after an unhappy season to join FC Liege, with whom the 29-year-old has signed a three-year contract.

Next Saturday May 12 Sydney's Players Bar and Grill will hold a FA Cup Final function. Special guest for the evening will be Australia's Charlie Yankos. Patrons will be able to watch all the excitement of the final on one of numerous television monitors set up in the restaurant. A supper menu will be served from 10pm onwards and special Soccer tickets will be available. Kick off is 10pm. Players Bar and Grill is located at 42 Myer Street, Chippendale. Sydney's only sports bar, restaurant, Owner of Players Bar and Grill, Mr Ken Russell says: "The FA Cup Final is always one of the highlights of the sporting calendar and we are honoured to have Charlie, one of the greats

of Australian soccer, share the evening with us. It promises to be a great night for all present."

SUNSHINE George Cross have dropped their interest in Pat Morley. Instead they will seek another striker from Scotland, the home of their latest import, Derek Hunter. Both will come to Australia as full-timers to earn the minimum of \$400 a week under the Immigration Department's new policy which does not allow people on sports visas to work outside their sport.

THE National League and its NSW-based clubs met last week with police authorities to discuss security at matches. The clubs are now aware of the guidelines for police attendance. The clubs agreed to meet senior police again before the start of the 1990/91 season to update surveillance methods at all grounds.

AUSTRALIA's Olympic under 23 team has confirmed three matches of their European tour in August/September. They will play their Olympic counterparts from Czechoslovakia, Switzerland and the Republic of Ireland. A fourth match, against France, is also in the pipeline. Unless a national coach has been appointed by then, Eddie Thomson is expected to be in charge in a caretaker's capacity.

SBS will telecast both Soccerroo matches against Hajduk Split — at Parramatta Stadium on June 3 and at Olympic Park on June 6. In the absence of Les Murray, on World Cup duty, Andy Paschalidis will be the anchor presenter.

SYDNEY Olympic produced the best run of wins in the home and away season with six on end but Apia has the distinction of boasting the longest undefeated run of 11 games. At the other end of the scale, Sunshine, Adelaide Hellas and Blacktown

all lost five successive games at one stage during the season with Blacktown going the longest without a victory during a dreadful 11 match run.

MELBOURNE Croatia's former Heidelberg star Theo Selemdis is set to become Victoria's first 300 game QNSL player. Selemdis, who has taken full advantage of a late season recall into Croatia's senior side, played his 297th QNSL game in the preliminary semi-final against South Melbourne. Selemdis would need to play a game in every week of the finals to be able to chalk up his magnificent milestone in the 1989-90 season.

IN what was seen as one of the most positive moves by the Victorian Soccer Federation in some time, representatives of the VSF met with a large group of the Victorian soccer media last week to clear the air. The VSF asked that the meeting be kept 'off the record', so that both parties could air their grievances.



It wasn't the gone that got away, but it was a near-miss by Paul Trimboli. South Melbourne's famed coach, Ferenc Puskas, deep in conversation with Trimboli after their club downed Sydney Olympic 4-1 in the NSL Cup Final.

Chit Chat Chit Chat



Sydney Olympic skipper Robert Hooker hams it up. At right is his brother Richard, who plays in the Ku-ring-gai Association Premier League in Sydney.

vances in private. All we can say is that the message that the press is not satisfied with the deal it gets from the VSF was made well and truly clear.

SYDNEY'S abysmal summer weather meant that the first year of 'summer soccer' didn't alleviate the problems of postponed fixtures. In all, 14 fixtures had to be rescheduled in the 1989-90 season, compared to 17 last season when the 26 home and away rounds were played in both winter and summer. But in 1988, the last genuine year of winter

football, only 10 matches were postponed because of inclement weather.

FINALS fever certainly hit home in the first round of the playoffs. New attendance records were set for both the preliminary and elimination semi-finals. The 1989-90 season has been the best in the history of the NSL. The 1989-90 season, compared to 17 last season when the 26 home and away rounds were played in both winter and summer. But in 1988, the last genuine year of winter

Peter Thorne sets objectives

NEW NSW Soccer Federation president Peter Thorne was quick to settle on his objectives following his election last week.

Thorne replaces recently elected Australian Soccer Federation chairman John Constantine, and the vote was tight.

Treasurer Peter Gray also secured four votes, with Thorne coming out on top in the hat draw.

Thorne is the former Blacktown City Football Club secretary, whilst Gray was long-term Sutherland Shire club president.

As fulltime general manager of the highly prosperous Blacktown City licensed club, Thorne has had plenty of experience.

He began many years back with the Toongabie Soccer Club, which later became Blacktown City.

Thorne told ASW: "My objectives

are clear, but the priorities may alter."

He listed:

- Further the use of the Federation's complex at Parklea and its financial viability.

- The de-politicising of the game of soccer in NSW.

- The unification of the code in NSW.

- Improving the marketability and viability of the competitions which member clubs compete in.

- Assist in the development of clubs.

- Increase the profile of the code with the media.

He added: "We are committed to the two-division State League for 1990."

"There is a deal of sympathy for the clubs."

"Regardless of the Bradley Report, there has to be a lot more changes in 1991."

"Apart from that I'm confident that the board of directors and member clubs can deal with the issues confronting the code."



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MC — Andy Paschalidis of SBS

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Croydon City lead in Victoria

VSF



A rather dour affair was played out at Green Gully reserve between Ajax and Alexander in Round 14 of the Victorian State League last weekend.

Heidelberg took the lead after 18 minutes through Phil Stubbins.

A minute later Ajax equalised through Jeff Faulkner as the home side caught Heidelberg napping.

After both goals were scored the game lost momentum and very few scoring opportunities presented themselves to either team.

Heidelberg's defence was solid and gave little away to the Ajax forward line, with both Smart and Daly having a quiet game.

Heidelberg's winner in the 2-1 result came in the 73rd minute when a throughball found Paul Lewis completely unmarked, much to the surprise of the Ajax back four. Lewis fired home a shot that was blocked by goalkeeper Charlie Sant. Aki Kozamichalis tried to clear

off the line but only succeeded in miskicking the ball into his own goal.

Heidelberg even allowed Ajax to hit the crossbar five minutes later, but in reality one couldn't help but feel that was a token gesture to give the crowd something to cheer about.

MELBOURNE JUST 1 CAULFIELD CITY 1

Melbourne City played out their seventh draw of the season and only managed to secure a point in the dying minutes.

But, to the home side's credit, this match was their third in five days, so you could not expect to see the best performance from their players on the day.

Caulfield, playing without Pappas and Tsakos who were both out through suspension, scored from a free-kick after 15 minutes.

Angie Filippou fired in a high ball which was headed in by Nick Papadopoulos.

The second half saw Caulfield contain JUST, but a lapse in play allowed the home side to take a point from this match. A through ball found Carlos Retre, who beat the goalkeeper and slotted the ball home from inside the box two minutes from time.

BULLEEN 1 MORWELL FALCONS 0

Bulleen made it four points from two matches, but had referee Cohn Ellis to thank.

Bulleen's winner came in the 25th minute when a long throw-in by Michael Branov found

Anthony Grabac who fired home past David Reynolds.

Then, five minutes from half time, Branov was brought down by Falcons skipper Jim McBride. Ellis had no hesitation in issuing McBride a red card. A minute later Jerry Clarke followed his captain back to the dressing room as he received the red card for what appeared to be substantial use of foul language.

Morwell played out the second half with nine men, and the loss of McBride and Clarke appeared to spur them into action.

Falcons' best chance to score came midway through the second half when Shaun Byrne pushed the ball past the keeper only to see his shot rub past the wrong side of the post.

Morwell coach Bob McLaughlin said afterwards: "I just wonder how many players have been sent off for foul language without having been shown the yellow card first."

FRANKSTON PINES 1 CROYDON CITY 3

Pines entertained Croydon without coach

Joe Sweeney, who had walked out on the club on Wednesday night.

Croydon got straight into the job of scoring after six minutes when a corner was flicked into Greg Brack who fired home his first goal of the season.

Seven minutes later Croydon made it 2-0 when a good build-up from the back allowed Andy Humble to score. This made amends for the miss minutes earlier when Humble chipped the ball over the bar with only the goalkeeper to beat.

David Klepac completed the scoreline in the 23rd minute when a cross from the right by van Egmond was headed down by Humble and Klepac volleyed home.

Frankston scored a consolation goal shortly afterwards when goalkeeper John McKinley rolled the ball out and found Stevie Keenan instead of his own players.

Keenan raced in and chipped over a beaten McKinley, much to the dismay of his teammates.

BOX HILL 0 BRUNSWICK JUVES 3

Juventus won by dominating in midfield and containing Box Hill from the word go.

Steve Morley scored for the away side after 35 minutes when his left foot shot found the net.

Two minutes later a free-kick outside the penalty area gave Juventus goal number two.

Shaun Lane singled out Steve Smith who jumped high to head the ball down to Charlie Egan, who fired home from four metres.

Brunswick's third was a penalty, given when the ball was judged to have been punched off the line by a Box Hill defender during a goal mouth scramble.

Shaun Lane scored from the penalty spot 17 minutes from full-time.

MOOROOLBARK 0 ST ALBANS 0

Both teams played out an evenly contested first half although it appeared from the outset that St Albans were trying to penetrate the Mooroolbark defence by using the long high ball played into the penalty area.

Most of the time Mooroolbark simply cleared the ball away and marked out the oncoming forward line.

In the second half, reserve goalkeeper John Scanlon, in for the injured Les Long, pulled off a good save to deny Basara.

Robbie Kincaid, so often Mooroolbark's danger man, was kept quiet by the St Albans defence as the match petered out to a fair draw.



Bulleen star Anthony Grabac in action — Photo courtesy MELBOURNE SUN

FAWKNER 0 THOMASTOWN 2

Thomastown won this local Italian derby in a match that would have disappointed many Fawkner fans expecting to see a solid performance from their side.

Thomastown started to dominate in the first half, however, they found the Fawkner defence rock-solid and giving little away.

In the second half coach Ken Murphy replaced Carfora with Eddie Sinclair.

Sinclair skillfully beat two players on the right and fired over a cross

which was met by Christaldo to make it 1-0 to Thomastown after 72 minutes of play.

Pat Giaccherini created Thomastown's second goal when he beat the fullback and passed to McAleer who simply side-footed the ball past Tarudina eight minutes later.

To make matters worse for Fawkner, David Hanna was sent off for a bad tackle on Tony Curcio after previously being booked in the first half.

RINGWOOD CITY 3 ALTONA GATE 3

Six goals and a point shared was the end result of an entertaining game played out at Jubilee Park.

Ringwood concentrated on playing the high ball into the Altona box, and this appeared at first to unsettle the away side's defence.

Altona scored first through Tommy Markovski when he headed home after 15 minutes play.

Ringwood quickly equalised through Walker minutes later. Tororovski made it 2-1 after 30 minutes but again, Ringwood surprised Altona by grabbing a quick equaliser through Walker.

Both teams continued to entertain the supporters in the second half with Altona taking the lead after 55 minutes when Gary McMullen collected his sixth goal of the season.

The home side deservedly earned a point, and their equaliser came through Darren Plank with 10 minutes left.

Round 13 Results

Albion Turk Gucu 3 (Favell Douglas, Kadlecik) D Ringwood City 1 (Plank) Brunswick United 1 (Smith) D Altona Gate Vardar 0 Morwell Falcons 3 (Cassar McBride, Doyle) Box Hill 0 Caulfield City 1 (Romero) Green Gully Ajax 0, Heidelberg United 2 (Lewis, Connel) Frankston Pines 0, Croydon City 5 (og Humble, Bimmer, Klepac, Run, Fawkes) 2 (Hanna) St Albans 2 (Eres, Alavici) Northcote City 0, Thomastown 2, Christaldo Zemunik) Mooroolbark 1 (Hayes) Bulleen Veneto 1 (Branov) draw with Melbourne City JUST 1 (Faloric).

Top Scorers

10 Lewis (Heidelberg), 7 Eres (St Albans), Douglas (Altona), 6 McMullen (Altona), Klepac (Croydon), 5 Christaldo (Thomastown), Humble (Croydon), Smith (Brunswick), Beevnoliski (Melb City).

This week

Match to be played on Wednesday May 9 from round 14: Northcote City v Albion Turk Gucu.

Matches to be played in round 15 on Saturday May 12: Altona Gate Vardar v Northcote City, Caulfield City v Morwell Falcons.

To be played on Sunday May 13: Albion Turk Gucu v Mooroolbark, Box Hill v Ringwood City, Brunswick United v Bulleen Veneto, Heidelberg Alexander v Melb City JUST, Croydon City v Green Gully Ajax, Fawkner v Frankston Pines, Thomastown v St Albans Dinamo.

Bulleen's Success

IN a single midweek Victorian State League fixture last Wednesday, Bulleen took over league leadership after a 1-1 draw with lowly Melbourne JU ST.

JU ST put together one of its best performances of the season to hold Bulleen and came from behind following a spectacular individual goal from Michael Branov in the 27th minute.

Nereo Fatoric's low drive put JUST on level terms in the 63rd minute but the former NSL club deserved better after having an earlier appeal for a penalty turned down. Bill Lazopoulos hit the woodwork for JU ST early on.

Final score - BULLEEN 1 ((Branov) MELB JU ST 1 ((Fatoric).

NSW MATCHES

DIV 2: Wed May 16: Campbelltown v Mt Druitt, Bensley Rd 6.30pm & 8.30pm. Fri May 18: Petersham v Auburn Yugal, Erskineville Oval 7pm & 9pm. DIV 3: Lemnos Alistars v West Wanderers, Valentine Park 6.30pm & 8.15pm.

Wollongong Coaching

CASEY de Bruin, coach of Wollongong Macedonia, will be making a guest appearance at the Illawarra Coaches Association third meeting.

Practical coaching and question and answering sessions will take place from 6.30 until 8.00pm.

This will be followed by general business and future events as well as refreshments.

Woonona High School will host the night on Monday 14 May 1990.

For further information contact Chris James (02) 527 1512 (h) or (02) 533 1293 (w).

AUSTRALIA'S INTERNATIONALS

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THE Australian Soccer Federation is waiting on France to complete the Olympic squad's European tour itinerary.

Three matches have been set for the tour, which runs for 14 days from August 18.

Matches have been settled with Czechoslovakia, Switzerland and the League of Ireland.

ASF general secretary Alan Vessey said:

"The advantage of trialling in Europe is that the Oceania winner must play off against a European nation home and away for a place in the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games finals."

The tour is being conducted with the financial support of the Australian Olympic Federation.

Further details on the actual Olympic qualifying draw won't be known until July when FIFA meets the International Olympic Committee.

Australia has asked for its matches to be played during the period of May to August 1991.

Competing in Oceania will be Australia, Fiji, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

Meanwhile, news on the forthcoming Hajduk tour has been non-existent, but it is hoped that this will change later in the week.

No protest

Melita Eagles president Sam Vella said that his club has made no protest about over the condition of the goalposts at Middle Park.

Joe Venglos would merit other offers

BY FRANK SOCLUNA

IF newly elected ASF chairman John Constantine can reach agreement with Czechoslovakian World Cup coach Dr Josef Venglos for him to take on the immense task of restructuring our Soccer set-up, he may well lead Australian football into a new era of recognition, or alternatively, create a chaotic situation which the game can ill afford.

There is no doubt as to the impressive credentials Venglos holds in the international arena, his immense knowledge and experience in twice taking Czechoslovakia to the World Cup finals in 1982 and 1990 speaks for itself.

His good command of the English language, together with the time previously spent in Australia gives Venglos the sort of background that appears to make him the perfect choice for the job.

What concerns me, however, is the real possibility of Czechoslovakia obtaining some extraordinary results in Italy next month which could make him the target for super-rich European clubs or big spending Arab countries.

Quite obviously, the ASF cannot possibly afford to wait before making its decision.

More than enough time has already gone to waste in announcing Frank Arok's replacement and our various Soccerroo teams can no longer be left in limbo.

Having caretaker coaches is not a good enough alternative, as no firm long-term team plans can be made until the matter is finally settled.

If on the other hand, the ASF takes the hit by the teeth and gives the job to Venglos in the next two weeks, what would happen if he then turns around after the World Cup and accepts a vastly superior offer elsewhere?

After all, a man of his qualifications cannot possibly be blamed for securing his financial future when at the age of 53, he may only have a few years remaining before retirement.

The ASF will then be forced into a situation of either instituting costly and prolonged legal action against Venglos for breach of contract or they would have to completely forget about the whole episode and appoint someone else after having wasted another six valuable months to finally get the show on the road.

A coach with the stature of Dr Venglos would undoubtedly give



JOE VENGLOS — iron-clad guarantees.

our game a new-found respect in the football world.

But as much as I would like to see it happen, and irrespective of any contracts which may be signed with the ASF beforehand, there can be no iron-clad guarantees that we will ever be fortunate enough to see Venglos return to this country.

Background

Talking of coaches glancing at the final QNSL table for the year just ended one cannot help but notice a quite interesting transformation that has taken place in our game.

In the 13 years since the league kicked off in 1977, no less than seven championships — nearly half of them, were taken out by teams under the direction of British coaches.

Yet this year with the sole exception of Mick Hickman of Sydney Olympic, not one side in the first 10 on the ladder has been influenced by British football.

The remaining four which were, all ended up finishing in the bottom four places.

I'm not that sure what all this indicates but it may be more than just coincidence that, while most State Directors of Coaching come from Britain, nearly all our successful leading clubs now rely on coaches who learned their craft elsewhere.

If these clubs are setting a standard for others to follow, Australian soccer could well be on the verge of breaking the shackles which have previously seen it locked under a prolonged British dominance.

Young Seal

When former Sydney Croatia coach Vedran Rozic was forced to make a sudden trip home to Yugoslavia this time last year, his assistant Ron Corry briefly took over the reins and promoted a raw 17-year-old schoolboy by the name of David Seal into the senior team.

Although Corry was criticised at the time for

placing such a heavy burden on the youngster's shoulders, Seal responded by scoring three times in five appearances but when Rozic returned to Edensor Park, the young striker soon found himself in the Youth League.

Seal was again given his chance to cement a permanent position in the side after Corry was

given the coaching job at Croatia in the new season.

While a string of disappointing early results saw the club replace Corry with new coach Tony Vrzina, the young striker kept banging in the goals and fully repaid the faith that had been shown in him by dramatically snatching a hat-trick in the final game of the season to become the youngest player ever to win the NSL's top goalscorer award.

For a virtually unknown 18-year-old to come out of nowhere and grab such a prestigious title is the sort of stuff to be only found in comic books but this was no fairytale.

David Seal has emphatically struck his name in the record books and as for the man who first recognised his immense talent, Ron Corry can hardly be blamed if he contents himself with a little smug feeling of self-satisfaction.

Ian Fagan returns

BY GREG RUSSELL

IAN Fagan's self-imposed coaching retirement ended just six weeks into the new season when he took over the reins at Grange Thistle last week.

Ironically, Fagan succeeded Matt Carson whom he also replaced at Brisbane City 12 months ago.

Carson stepped down from Thistle after failing to score a win in his team's first four games.

The transition amazingly was the second coaching change in the 12-team XXXX League just six weeks into the season.

A fortnight ago Rochdale Rovers sacked Alan Jones and appointed John Stewart as player-coach.

Sadly for the dedicated Carson — Queensland's most successful coach — the rewards for his efforts with the young Grange team came just three days after his departure when Thistle scored a 1-0 win over Taringa Rovers.

Fagan, who made a name for himself at North Star after a long playing and coaching stint at Grange Thistle, bowed out of Brisbane soccer last year when he left the game following a turbulent 12 months in which he quit Second Division Inala City just five weeks into the season to coach Brisbane City.

In announcing his retirement after City crashed out of the finals race, Fagan stated: "All I intend doing is spending next season at home with my family."

But it did not take Fagan long to get itchy feet. He returned to North Star to play third grade this season before accepting the call to return to Lanham Park.

"I had a lot of good years at Thistle so I hope I can help out," Fagan said.

Typically, Carson took the blame for Thistle's slow start despite inheriting a side which has only narrowly avoided relegation in the past three years.

"If the side's not winning, I mustn't be doing my job," he said. "I've made no inroads and have not achieved a thing."

"I live by the law of the jungle, so it's time someone else had a go."

Carson, whose pending hip operation may have prompted his decision to step down, predicted that he feared Thistle could be relegated.

"They're nice fellows at Thistle, but that doesn't mean a thing," he said. "There will have to be a big improvement to stop them going down."

Thistle are hoping their fortunes will mirror those of Rochdale, who won their first three games under Stewart.

Russell's comeback

BY GREG RUSSELL



RUSSELL STEWART

QUEENSLAND'S best known player, Russell Stewart, is set to end his exile on the sidelines.

Stewart, 26, has not played this season after failing to come to terms with Lions, his club of the past nine years, but the former young Soccerroo met with club representatives last week and it is understood a new deal has been negotiated.

Stewart was expected to make his return through reserve grade against Mount Gravatt at Perry Park last Saturday night.

Ironically, the Hawks were the only club to make an offer for Stewart during three months on the transfer list.

His former junior club made a token \$2500 offer, which enabled Stewart to appeal against his \$15,000 fee.

But the appeal resulted in only a marginal reduction, coincidentally the same amount as Mount Gravatt's offer for their former junior product.

With \$12,000 out of the range of most XXXX League clubs, it seemed the time had come for Stewart and Lions to go back to the negotiating table.

Lions argued in the appeal Stewart was worth every cent of the \$15,000 fee, citing transfers paid over the past two years for Frank Mengotti (\$25,000 from Brisbane City) and Martin Kirsopp (\$12,500) as benchmarks.

The minimal reduction to Stewart's fee reflected the club's argument had won over the OSF management committee.

Vice-President Ross Melville said after announcing the fee that Stewart's still considerable playing future also had been a major decider.

"Russell is 26 and should be starting to realise his full potential as a midfielder in the next few years," Melville said.

"He has represented Queensland 15 times and played international football as a youth."

"It is a shame to see such a good player on the sidelines, particularly with the representative games coming up."

But Stewart believes his comeback probably will be too late for consideration in Bruce Stowell's Queensland team for the match against touring English side Charlton Athletic at Perry Park next month.

"I've been doing a bit of work myself, but I don't think I've got much chance," he said.



Goals galore in XXXX League

THE goals are flowing in the XXXX League, and spectators are loving it.

Although the first month of the season has been disrupted by wet weather, the heavy grounds have not stopped the state's leading sharpshooters.

Last year's leading scorer's total of 16 goals, which was achieved by Northstar's Jim McDonagh and Lee Scriggins and Brisbane City's Kieran Cooper, now seems certain to be overhauled.

And the tally could be bettered before the fixture turnaround if strikers at a number of clubs maintain their current rate.

Heading the leader board is powerhouse Pine River's striker Neil Carroll with 10 goals from five games.

Carroll, 18, showed glimpses of his goal scoring abilities last year but missed the second half of the season through injury.

As expected, McDonagh is in the race for the leading scorer title, just one behind Carroll after the first six rounds.

The Scotsman has been a sensation in Brisbane football since shedding more than eight kilos two seasons ago. His form earned the former Lions NSL import a place in the Queensland indoor team which toured the US in January and could put him in the

forefront for state selection in the forthcoming games against Charlton Athletic and NSW.

But the big threat could come from the new kid on the block.

New Acacia Ridge signing Mark Flemington has proved a sensation. The Englishman has netted six goals in just three games.

The XXXX League spotlight this week will focus firmly on the clash between defending premiers North Star and current leaders, Lions, at O'Callaghan Park at 7pm on Saturday.

North Star had the wood on Lions last season, but the Richlands club has stamped their authority on the competition in the first six weeks and look to have the form to avenge their 2-1 defeat in the corresponding fixture last season.

Other interesting clashes include Brisbane City hosting Rochdale Rovers on Sunday.

The Rovers will include former City captain Noel Greenhalgh and youngster Darren Bender who had a brief stint at Spencer Park earlier this season.

In other games, Mount Gravatt meet shedding more than eight kilos two seasons ago. His form earned the former Lions NSL import a place in the Queensland indoor team which toured the US in January and could put him in the

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCENE

with Alan Clark

ADELAIDE City could consider an organised scheme of loaning NSL players on a draft choice system to First Division State League clubs.

"If the SA Soccer Federation and clubs could sit down and work out a fair and equitable scheme for all clubs excluding Hellas which has its own NSL players it is something we could look at," said City coach Zoran Matic.

"Foundation League clubs could get the pick of players with bottom clubs Cumberland and Port having first choice."

If Matic stays on as NSL coach he could face a rebuilding program next year.

Socceroo Aurelio Vidmar is going to Italy for the World Cup and is likely to try his playing luck in Europe.

There is a doubt over the NSL playing future of Adrian Santrac and Neville Flounders and Charley Villani is a week to week proposition.

In a boost for the club, skipper Sergio Melta has said he will play on and Milan Ivanovic is likely to stay if he can negotiate a new contract.

But players were stung by scathing comments from Matic and president Charlie Caruso after the elimination loss to Sydney Olympic and much smooth talking will have to take place over winter to boost club morale and provide an attractive basis for recruiting.

NEIL McGachey is being transported back to his boyhood.

The Birkalla Eagles coach arrives in Italy in time to see Scotland play Brazil in the World Cup and admitted, "I haven't felt like this since I was eight and was going for the first time to see Alec Young play for Hearts against Airdrie."

John Evans will take over when McGachey leaves on June 18. But McGachey believes the Eagles are ready to soar again after losing their way in the past month.

"The signs were encouraging against Beograd last week," he said.

"We were fortunate to get the points but the side had a better balance."

"Basically we had a game plan in which Gareth Naven was a key figure. When we lost him we tried three or four others in his role but things didn't work. Confidence dipped too."

"So last week we decided to restructure our play and there were signs we are on the right road."

Naven has been cleared to Perth Italia after returning to his home in WA for family reasons.

FORMER FIFA referee Donald Campbell and the 'father of football' in Adelaide's southern suburbs, Noel Langley, last week received their Order of Australia Medals in a special investiture at Government House.

Campbell, formerly the longest serving FIFA ref in the world, also has spent a lifetime coaching kids. He now is senior coach of Adelaide Croatia.

Langley has given 60 years service to soccer as player, administrator, coach, trainer, referee, water boy and player transporter.

SECOND Division pacesetter Enfield City will pursue its promotion dreams.

"Our committee has had a long talk and we definitely want to give it a go," said vice chairman Norm Graham. "Financially we are all right. There is money in the club but we would like a major sponsor."

"We are very optimistic. But we want to take each game as it comes and will keep level headed."

"The players are enthusiastic. They are working hard with coach Ralph De Pinto and are a very close knit group."

The championship promises to go right to the wire.

POLONIA players have stepped up training to three nights a week to bolster their place at the top of the First Division.

Captain Frank Timar and vice captain Zelko Blagojevic met with coach Stan Cygan and saw the need for another

night's training.

"We had looked lethargic in the second half of games," said secretary John Sosnowski. "Hopefully this extra night will help."

THE Omonia v Cumberland Baidet Cup tie on Monday May 21 has been shifted to Bailey Res.

CUMBERLAND and Blackwood are the divisional winners of the Home Fresh Bakeries Fair Play Award for April.

First Division Cumberland did not incur any penalty points while Blackwood, of Division Two, notched only two.

Cumberland piped Azzurri (6) and Adelaide City (8) while Para Hills (10) and Apac (14) were Blackwood's nearest rivals.

For the second month in succession, Modbury was the worst behaved team in First Division with 35 penalty points.

FORMER Adelaide City playing legend Dixie Deans is to have a new role for the club.

He has returned to Scotland after a promotional visit to SA and will be a talent scout for City.

"I know all the managers in Scotland and have many contacts in the game there," said Deans before flying out of Adelaide.

"I will let City know if any suitable quality players are available."

Deans is expected to return to SA early next year on holiday with wife Pat.

SA conditions for the visit of Hajduk Split have been accepted and the classy tourists will play SA on Wednesday, June 13 at Hindmarsh.

The SA Soccer Federation board later this month will decide who coaches the SA team for the match.

A top level sub committee has been appointed to co-ordinate the visit which is eagerly anticipated - particularly by the Croatian community.

ADELAIDE City looks sure to merge with Campbelltown City for the start of next year's State League season in



SA

Negotiations over the long talked about amalgamation are nearing completion.

The new club is likely to play at home in City's black and white stripes and away in Campbelltown's red and white.

The clubs are of Italian extraction and are housed in Adelaide's eastern suburbs.

QUALITY utility player Tony Radic has left Croatia.

He has joined Lion on loan until the end of the season.

Croatia striker George Konstantopoulos dislocated a shoulder as Croatia suffered a shock 4-0 loss to Salisbury.

The club is awaiting better news on key players Doug Paterson, Paul Blute and Ante Ljubic recovering from injury.

Paterson expects to have the plaster removed from his broken leg this week while skipper Blute should resume soon from knee surgery.

Ljubic has been a long term casualty with a groin complaint.

CUMBERLAND has given its relegation fight a boost by signing English import utility player Kevin McCormack, 26.

McCormack, from Liverpool, was on Everton's books as a teenager but played this season in the NW Counties League.

A defender or midfielder, McCormack is keen to help lift the Foxes from bottom spot on the table.



The Adelaide City team that went as far as the NSL 1989-90 elimination semi-final. Pic. Hector Carrasco.

From Adamstown to Women's World Cup

BY GRAHAM COOKE



NEWCASTLE striker Linda Hughes has just one word to describe the possibility she may be playing for Australia in the first women's World Cup next year — "ecstatic"

"I hadn't thought about it much before, but when I realised there was to be one, and that Australia had a good chance of getting there — well, my hopes are just sky high," she said during a break in a training camp for the national team at the Australian Institute of Sport.

The current squad is maturing into a combination which will be capable of doing really well," she predicted.

Hughes entered competitive club soccer when she was 11. "But I'd been playing at school for some time before that."

"I just found girls' games boring, and started taking part in the guys' matches," she says.

"It was still considered to be a boys' sport in those days but I was lucky — I didn't get much hassle and I fitted in well."

This is a young player who has been playing since she was 13, and has been a member of the Northern NSW representative squad at the 1981 national championships in Brisbane.

"And I've been to every national titles since," she says.

International honours were a little longer in coming but Hughes finally achieved a burning ambition to represent her country when she was drafted into John Doyle's squad for the Oceania Cup in Brisbane last year.

Since then she has taken part in a successful tour of Japan, where she opened her international scoring account, and believes the morale of the team is on the mend.

How does she cope with the demands of club, state and now international soccer?

"Some people may see it as a strain but I love it," she says. "As far as I am concerned, there's only one pace to go at, and that's flat out."

THE ACT SCENE

THE University of Canberra has its sights on the one trophy which so far has eluded it — the Ampol Cup.

Since moving into the First Division in 1986 it has won the Federation Cup and, last year, the league championship.

But after four tries the Ampol Cup awarded to the winner of the First Division's top four play-offs, has still to find its way onto the campus.

"The closest we came was getting to the final two years ago and losing to Croatia at Bruce Stadium," coach Ian Shaw says.

What might be the most important thing is that the Ampol Cup is the one which — it's the one which attracts the prestige and the publicity.

"So while we are

in the First Division, we are not going to win the Ampol Cup."

A University win would cap a remarkable sequence of success for the club, stretching back to the days when, as CCAE, it dominated Saturday soccer in the old Canberra League.

The club's sponsor is the Private Bar nightclub and Shaw, Heidemanns and company like nothing better than to have the Ampol Cup on the bar come September.

THE latest improvement to Canberra Croatia's Deakin Oval is a scoreboard opposite the main seating area.

While not quite the equal of Inter Moamaro's electronic marvel, it is well designed and clearly visible — an excellent facility for latecomers and those who for one reason or another are not concentrating on the match in progress.

— GRAHAM COOKE

Demons too strong for Saints in semi

BY DANIEL COOPER

BLACKTOWN City moved a step closer towards a berth in the Northern Youth League grand final

when they defeated St George 3-1 in the minor semi-final at Parramatta Stadium last Sunday.

They will now meet Apia Leichhardt on Wednesday night to see who will be playing the AIS in the grand final next weekend.

The final four were not decided until the deferred fixtures were completed during the week.

St George made it into the four on goal difference after they finished on 16 points, level with Blacktown City and Marconi.

In their deferred game, Saints drew 0-0 with Sydney Olympic to put them on 16 points, therefore sneaking into the finals series at the expense of Marconi who had been in the top four since Round 15.

In the other deferred games, Melita drew 1-1 with Sydney Croatia, then beat Wollongong 3-1.

The minor semi-final saw two evenly matched sides play some good football, with the Demons the more opportunistic.

And it was Blacktown who opened the scoring when Lees found Bourke with a good pass. Bourke made a strong run down the middle, beating three

defenders and then drawing a fourth before scoring.

Three goals in eight minutes got the second half to a great start and laid the foundations for a very good period.

Blacktown scored their second goal in the 51st minute when Connolly headed home a Comerford corner, but five minutes later Saints pulled a goal back when from a freekick the ball failed to be cleared properly and Freestone netted after the goalie had first parried Bingle's drive.

Blacktown struck back again three minutes later when the ball was moved around the edge of the box and eventually Lawrie McKinnon passed to a man who, running onto the ball, smashed his first-time shot past the goalie to give his team a two-goal cushion.

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	16	11	4	1	48	12	26
APIA	16	8	6	2	21	16	22
Blacktown City	16	6	4	6	21	14	16
St George	16	6	4	6	21	20	16
Marconi	16	6	4	6	24	25	16
Melita	16	6	3	7	18	13	15
Sydney Olympic	16	5	2	9	20	26	12
Wollongong City	16	5	2	9	17	25	12
Sydney Croatia	16	3	3	10	18	41	9

Mitre Metro Representatives

ROUND 6		U11	U12
Sutherland	v	Canterbury	4-0 1-3
Banksstown	v	St George	0-1 3-2
Granville	v	Stn Branch	— —
Stn Districts	v	Ilwarrara	1-1 1-0
Blackdown	v	Macarthur	2-6 2-6

ROUND 4 SUNDAY MAY 6

Ku-ring-gai	v	Stn & Eastern	1-3 1-2
Napean	v	Gladesville	1-0 1-1
Manly Warr	v	bye	— —
Central Coast	v	Macquarie	2-0 2-1

Croatia qualifies for NYL final

BY ROY HAY

MELBOURNE Croatia came from behind to beat Preston after extra-time 3-1 in the preliminary final of the National Youth League (Southern Division) at Olympic Park on Sunday.

After a nervous opening in which the ball seemed to spend a long time out of play, Croatia nearly scored after 17 minutes.

Mark Silic fired over a cross which passed between Preston keeper Laurie Petropoulos and his post and just beyond the reach of the lunging Joe Bacak.

A bad back-pass gave Peter Razmovski of Preston a chance but he blasted high over.

A further spell of pressure by Croatia followed, with Preston's midfield coming in for strong criticism from its own defence.

Out of virtually nothing, Joe Markovac gave Preston the lead after 42 minutes when he was allowed to turn on the ball and shoot under Joe Rados.

Croatia had more of the play in the first half, but nothing to show for its efforts.

In the second half, Croatia continued to pump long balls forward, but Bill Piculovski and Lori Risteovski were in command at this stage.

Preston seemed to be cruising to victory, when it failed to clear a corner kick and Klaudio Cerlin and Mark Silic tried to force the ball home, but referee Stan



Marjan Jovevski of Altona Gate punches clear from Hus Skenderovic of Melbourne.

Bialecki indicated later that it was an own goal by Preston.

The game went into extra-time and the deadlock remained till deep into the second half.

Joe Bacak chased a long ball forward for Croatia and the Preston keeper and full back Chris Temelkovski collided leaving Bacak with a simple tap in.

Six minutes later Bacak was brought

down as he ran in on goal, and Hus Skenderovic made victory secure with the penalty kick.

Croatia will play Altona Gate in the Southern Division final next Sunday, with the winner of that going on to meet the Northern Division winner the following week.

RESULT

Melbourne Croatia 3 (own goal, J. Bacak, M. Skenderovic) Preston 1 (J. Markovac).

NSW FEDERATION LEAGUES

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 1	FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 2
Dulwich Hill 9 5 4 0 20 6 14	Transandinos 5 5 0 0 15 3 10
Southern Dist 9 6 2 1 20 9 14	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Fairfield City 11 4 5 2 7 14 3	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Rosebery 10 5 2 3 22 16 12	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Campbelltown City 8 4 2 2 18 5 10	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Waverley 8 4 2 2 13 10 10	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Central Coast 9 4 2 3 12 11 9	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Peterborough 8 2 4 2 8 9 8	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Granville City 10 3 2 5 11 19 8	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Auburn Yugal 8 3 1 4 11 12 7	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Manly Warringah 10 2 3 5 10 11 7	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Gladesville City 9 5 3 12 17 7	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Mt Druitt Town 8 1 2 5 5 9 4	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8
Orange Waratahs 9 0 2 7 6 27 2	Concord Juniors 5 4 0 1 14 3 8

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 2	FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 1
Southern Dist 9 8 1 0 25 5 17	West Dist Hellas 6 5 1 0 28 9 11
Rosebery 10 7 2 1 29 11 16	Macquarie Uni 7 4 1 2 6 14 9
Granville City 10 6 2 2 16 12 14	Alexander 5 4 0 1 4 7 8
Dulwich Hill 9 6 2 2 11 5 13	Sporting Peru 5 4 0 1 12 7 8
Manly Warringah 10 4 3 3 27 22 11	Lithgow Workmen 6 3 0 3 13 10 6
Gladesville City 8 5 0 3 24 16 10	GNS United 5 2 0 3 11 14 4
Central Coast 8 4 1 3 16 16 9	Ashour Star 3 2 0 1 7 10 4
Campbelltown City 8 2 3 3 12 12 7	Chile Sports 6 2 0 4 5 13 4
Waverley 8 3 1 4 14 15 7	Prospect United 3 1 0 2 4 4 2
Fairfield City 11 3 1 7 11 24 7	Sydney Uni 4 1 0 3 4 8 2
Mt Druitt Town 8 2 2 4 13 13 6	Macquarie Uni 5 1 0 4 7 7 2
Peterborough 8 1 1 6 4 15 3	CSI Schofields 5 0 0 5 12 21 0
Auburn Yugal 8 1 0 7 7 31 2	
Orange Waratahs 9 0 2 7 6 30 2	

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 1	FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 2
Lennos Allstars 5 3 1 1 8 3 7	West Dist Hellas 6 5 0 1 15 6 10
Mt Druitt Town 3 3 0 0 7 0 6	Macquarie Uni 7 4 0 1 20 0 8
Banksstown 4 2 2 0 7 2 6	Sporting Peru 5 3 0 0 6 6 6
Hills United 4 2 1 1 11 5 5	Sydney Uni 4 3 1 0 18 5 7
Hills United 3 2 0 1 5 3 4	Alexander 5 3 1 1 11 7 7
Port Hacking 4 2 1 2 4 8 4	Lithgow Workmen 6 2 2 2 7 10 6
Canterbury & Dist 4 2 2 2 12 5 6	GNS United 5 2 0 3 10 15 4
Uni of NSW 5 2 0 3 6 14 4	Prospect United 1 1 1 7 6 3
Cyprus United 3 1 1 1 6 5 3	CSI 5 1 1 3 0 14 3
North Ryde RSL 4 1 1 2 5 6 3	Ashour Star 3 1 0 2 3 1 2
Bathurst 75 4 0 3 2 5 2	Chile Sports 6 1 0 5 8 20 2
West Wanderers 2 0 1 3 4	Macquarie Uni 5 0 0 5 14 10
Concordia 5 0 1 4 0 12 1	

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 2	FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 1
Banksstown 4 4 0 0 11 4 8	Pennth 5 4 1 0 2 5 9
Lennos Allstars 5 3 1 1 11 8 7	Assyrian 6 3 2 1 9 6 8
Canterbury & Dist 4 2 2 0 12 5 6	Pagewood Botany 5 3 1 1 9 6 7
Hills United 4 2 2 0 6 4 6	New Wellcome Sport 4 3 0 1 8 2 6
Mt Druitt Town 3 2 1 0 14 3 5	Balmain 5 2 1 2 15 8 5
Uni of NSW 5 2 1 2 10 10 5	Abruzzi 5 2 1 2 9 6 5
Port Hacking 3 1 1 1 3 5 3	Pennth Eagles 6 2 3 9 11 5
Cyprus United 3 0 0 1 5 6 2	Liverpool City 5 1 2 2 10 11 4
Bathurst 75 4 0 3 5 8 2	St Josephs 4 2 1 8 9 4
West Wanderers 2 0 1 1 3	Fogolar Furlan 4 0 2 4 8 2
Concordia 5 0 1 4 2 8	Liverpool Olympic 4 0 1 3 7 2 1
North Ryde RSL 4 0 0 4 3 10 0	Coblenza 3 0 0 3 2 8 0

FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 1	FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 2
Hajduk Rangers 5 4 0 20 4 9	Pennth 5 4 0 1 28 2 8
SSC Zagreb 5 4 0 15 8	Liverpool City 5 4 0 1 17 5 8
Concord Juniors 5 3 1 9 5 7	Pennth Eagles 6 3 2 12 0 8
Amcliffe 6 2 1 1 2 9	New Wellcome Sport 4 3 0 1 14 7 5
Nineveh Eagles 4 2 1 5 4 5	Abruzzi 5 2 2 5 4 6
Spanish Club 6 2 1 0 3 5	Balmain 5 3 0 2 10 11 6
Transandinos 4 2 0 2 0 6 4	Liverpool City 4 2 1 1 9 4 5
Colo Colo 2 0 3 8 13 4	Pagewood Botany 5 1 2 2 10 9 4
Hawkesbury Dist 4 2 1 1 1 1	St Josephs 4 1 2 5 5 3
Belmore Hercules 2 1 1 1 1 1	Fogolar Furlan 4 0 1 1 5 13 1
Pooty Hill Gunner 4 0 1 4 2 4 1	Assyrian 6 0 1 5 2 25
Croatia Syd Jrs 4 0 0 4 2 2 0	Coblenza 7 0 0 3 2 24 0

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The great leap goalward . . . Sydney Olympic's Grant Lee hurdles Adelaide City 'keeper Robert Zabica on the way to scoring the winning goal — Picture: DAVID OSBORN

GRADUAL CHANGE RECOMMENDED

[Reader George Bramis of Randwick in Sydney has studied the Australian soccer scene closely. In this article, he puts the case for gradual reform — bringing in major cities, de-ethnicising club names, but building gradually on existing club support.]

I am prepared to buy into Greg Blake's article in ASW 4th April issue regarding the future of the game. Many of the points I make have been made before, while others are original, and others still adapted over time.

1 14 teams in the NSL 4 from Sydney, 3 from Melbourne, 2 from Adelaide and one each from Brisbane Canberra Newcastle Perth & Wollongong

2 No promotion and relegation All teams will be franchised so that if a club/franchise can no longer compete in the NSL the franchise will become available to other consortium in the same city by tender, thereby maintaining the league's city and regional balance

3 The season will be held during summer permitting the National teams to compete locally and overseas during our winter National team squad members are contracted to the ASF and their incomes supplemented to permit National team squad members to work as full-time professional

4 Player payments for all NSL contracted players are controlled or at least limits are established to control transfer fees, thereby providing greater opportunity for less affluent clubs/franchises to be competitive

5 Travelling, promotional/marketing and

administrative costs are shared equally between the clubs via the NSL (ie each club, franchise pays an equal share to the NSL to cover travel promotional marketing & admin costs) The NSL is thereby responsible for arranging and organising the NSL's administration through the appointment of a Chief Administrator/General Manager

6 Each club/franchise maintains a first team squad and a youth team squad A national youth team competition therefore runs concurrently to the senior team This will provide a clear passage for youth players into the NSL and also provide experienced and well coached youth for all National sides (Olympic, U19 and U17) Youth League costs may be supplemented by the ASF through the national teams levy

7 Although we would all like to see the game extend its limited ethnic base and accepted into the main stream community this is unlikely to happen given that existing strengths of support lie in the ethnic communities particularly in the major metropolitan centres of Sydney Melbourne and to a lesser extent Adelaide The process of greater community acceptance for the local competition requires a specific staged and implemented programme

An initial step is not to allow obvious ethnic

names such as Croatia, 'Hellas Macedonia' etc Names such as Olympic however provide both a link to the ethnic origins of the club and is also acceptable to the broader community

Care should be taken not to alienate the existing support in the major centres which at this stage continues to provide the bread and butter attendance for the game We are at a multicultural society

8 A second transitional stage in developing the game at the local level is to further increase exposure to the National team

The success and high-profile image of the Socceroos can provide a catalyst for a more successful local competition According to the international success of the Socceroos and to a lesser extent the Olympic, Youth and U17 teams is via in terms of broad public exposure

9 The NSL should be further encouraged as the elite professional soccer league

The State Federations particularly in NSW and Victoria should redirect their limited resources from administering a first class professional competition to that of supporting and paying and fostering players for NSL team selection, junior and amateur leagues

10 Rationalise and streamline the management structure of the ASF and NSL along the following general lines

ASF/NSL EXECUTIVE

ASF Chairman
NSL Chairman
ASF/NSL Chief Executive or General Manager

ASF Committee
Representatives of all State & Regional Federations

NSL Committee
Representatives of all NSL Clubs/Franchises

* I would be surprised if the Bradley Report made more far-reaching recommendations since it would be unlikely that our adminis-

trators would adopt them

The realities of Australian soccer is that the Administration and the game itself could be

irreparably damaged with wholesale change A gradual transition based on an adopted strategic plan seems to make much more sense to me

Bosnich makes the grade

TEENAGE goalkeeper Mark Bosnich last Sunday week joined the elite band of Australians who have played in the English First Division when he appeared for Manchester United against Wimbledon in the last match of the season.

Bob Butchard
Inala Qld 4077.

The 18-year-old Sydney-born former Liverpool High School student, who made his Socceroo debut against Torpedo Moscow in Melbourne in February, was selected for the game by coach Alex Ferguson for his good form and diligent training throughout the season.

Bosnich will be in United's FA Cup final squad this weekend as

Jim Leighton's deputy

"I am over the moon," Bosnich said after keeping a clean sheet in his league debut, the match ending in a scoreless draw

"I was a little nervous before the kick-off, but on the field I enjoyed myself immensely, and even if I say so myself, I think I did alright."

The pick of the post

MONOPOLY

As a keen follower of soccer in South Australia I feel the progress of our game is being stifled by officialdom

If as expected, Adelaide Helix is relegated from the National League, then after seven days (according to Peter Russell) the players of that team will automatically be allowed to play in that club's State League team

This would give that club an obvious advantage of winning the League and once again becoming eligible to play-off for a NSL place

Thus the same team could continue to monopolise the play-off situation each year, in SA and also in Victoria

Surely this cannot be allowed to happen, certainly not every year

The NSL aspirations of every serious State League club in SA would be dashed, and with nothing to aim for, soccer in SA will gradually deteriorate to a very amateur level

It would be very interesting to hear the opinions of Brunswick Juventus, Footscray and Heidelberg who have spent a great deal of time and money strengthening their clubs in a bid for the chance to play in the QNSL knowing that Adelaide Helix could, in theory qualify EVERY year

The same rules must apply to all states, and all clubs to avoid this farce

M Bowden
Marion SA 5043

MADNESS

FRANK Scicluna's observations and recommendations (ASW 18 4 90) regarding the recent ethnic madness as St George Stadium are to be applauded

Unfortunately, the fines and ban imposed on the clubs concerned are no deterrent, they are no more than a slap on the wrist

When are these minority groups going to be kicked out of soccer completely, so the decent hard working

people of this code can get on with expanding and strengthening it, instead of being knocked down every few months when these idiots decide to demonstrate their nationalistic 'pride'?

Very shortly we are to receive the Bradley Report on how we can improve the game

I believe that he will recommend that all ethnic associations be dumped in favour of franchising or district-orientated clubs

The second leg will be that a truly national league be organised, not just a narrow based set-up as we have at the moment, which comes down heavily on the side of NSW

The first leg will go down because the ASF is now so strongly influenced by ethnic NSL representation — no thing that will reduce their power base will eventuate

The second leg will also come up against a brick wall with all the old nutmegs about the cost of travel,

accommodation etc points that the NBL and NSWRL have obviously encountered but easily overcome

A couple of questions for our experts in the southern capitals

Who made basketball, the boom sport in Australia in just a few years and why are Canberra and Brisbane the biggest drawcards in rugby league?

Both answers are obvious to anyone with half a brain

Our national team's appearances will still be confined to a couple of venues in southern climes as in the past

This criteria will also apply to team selections

If we are all footing the bill, we should have equal opportunity to be involved

So the lights are flashing, we are under starters orders Alas

The nobblers will put the blinkers on the stewards report and he'll be left hanging by a piece of very fine cotton

NSW DIVISION 2

Fitzsimmons stars for Coast

BY PAUL GOODWIN

CENTRAL Coast owed their point from the 1-1 draw with Gladesville last Wednesday to a sensational performance by young 'keeper David Fitzsimmons.

Very sluggish in the first half and going behind to a Chris Butt goal

Qualification games

A chapter of incidents during the week led to Sydney Macedonia qualifying for the NSW Cup final, despite playing almost every second day for 10 days.

A discovery that both Newcastle's BHP Austral and Wollongong Macedonia's Under 19 sides had included ineligible players in their deferred games on the Wednesday night meant that the Sydney side required two wins in its Friday night games with North Shore United at Seymour Shaw Park to qualify.

Initially the players understood that they had to win by an aggregate nine clear goals, but at the end of the first grade game they were informed that winning by any score would have been enough.

Therefore the amended results of the Under-19 games played that Wednesday night were North Shore United defeated BHP Austral 3-0 instead of losing 1-2 and Sydney Macedonia defeated Wollongong Macedonia 3-0 instead of drawing 1-1.

It is unfortunate that the two clubs in main contention for the final place both made the same innocent mistake on the same evening.

Perhaps a word of warning might not go amiss next time deferred games of this nature are played, as gaining entry into the final through the back door is hardly the most satisfying way for any club.

—PAUL GOODWIN

for Gladesville, the home side got back into the game and pulled one back, thanks to Kerry Caban who snapped up a loose ball when a shot from Matthew Garland was only parried by Griffiths.

Gladesville responded and had Coast on the ropes, but the winner never arrived, despite a considerable domination of play.

Injuries to Derek Caisley, Terry Mason, Andrew Ollier, Mark Drysdale and now Caban will restrict the side from Lisarow in their next few games.

Waverley returned to the form which impressed so many at the start of the season, when they strolled past Auburn Yugal, with a 2-0 win at Waverley Oval on Saturday.

They did everything but score in the first half and few doubted that they would win the game despite the blank scoresheet.

Sure enough, two minutes into the second half a Steve Milloy cross from the left was met by Ian Wotherspoon whose clever header deceived Rosario Pinto, now back in the Yugal goal.

After 62 minutes Barry Walker found the net with a volley when in receipt of another cross from Milloy, this time flicked on by Joe Watson.

It was a good day all round for Waverley, who entertained a side from USS Blue Ridge, beating the visiting Marines 5-3 and then went on to win the Under-19 game too.

Fairfield continued on their winning way with a solid 4-1 victory at the expense of Orange at Knight Park.

All the goals came after the interval, one from Alberto Arbelo, a penalty from Gary Hastie and two from Bruno Ciaramella, the second a 30 metre thunderbolt.

Orange replied late in the game through Stephen Hooper.

Mount Druitt spoiled Gladesville Hornsby's celebration of opening of their new Christie Park headquarters, by

beating the locals 3-1, all the goals coming in the second half.

Probably feeling the effects of their midweek tussles with Central Coast, Gladesville were impressive in the first half, but allowed Mount Druitt to seize the initiative in the second.

A nice chip forward by John White saw David Kerrigan volley home in the 58th minute and four minutes later White's shot from an angle was parried by the goalie and there was Craig Lowe to follow the ball into the net.

In the 79th minute a shot by Simon Everett deflected off Don Campbell sending Griffiths the wrong way for the third and it was left to Graeme Williamson to grab a late goal for the 'Mitre 10 Bears' in injury time after being put through by Jim Kelly.

Dulwich Hill dropped a valuable point in front of a 1,500 strong Portuguese crowd in the derby with Petersham at Arlington Oval.

Dennis Duarte added another to his goal tally, following his hat-trick the previous week, netting from the spot.

Petersham earned a point when substitute Robbie Lowe tapped the ball in, after Robbie Thompson had headed on a Frank Speranza corner, with just eight minutes left on the clock, to give a 1-1 result.

Southern Districts left it late to hit the lead for the third and final time at Bensley Road against Campbelltown, giving them a 3-2 win. Hugo Gimenez, on loan from Melita, made his presence felt with an opportunist goal after a Dave White shot had been parried by Dave Lauric.

Max Defelichbus got a 50th minute leveller, but Birol Se this restored the lead on the spot, as the 600 strong crowd enjoyed a highly entertaining and absorbing local derby.

Ray Carney curled a free kick around the wall for The Vikings in the 88th, but late replacement Oskar Selik with an 85th minute winner was the visitors' hero at the end of a

game neither team really deserved to lose.

Central Coast picked up their ninth point from their last five games, when they defeated Rosebery 3-1.

Jason Gribble gave them the lead midway through the first half, but an own goal by Erkin Osman who deflected a Jamie Doran cross from the left past his own 'keeper in the 61st minute knocked the stuffing out of the respected Rosebery side.

Soon after Paul Corbett sped past a sluggish defence and drew the 'keeper before scoring after Matthew Garland had sent through a nicely weighted pass.

Rosebery's consolation goal came in stoppage time, Tony Heery getting his foot to an Ercan Osman cross from the byline.

Granville Chile continues to show improvement. They took an 11th minute lead over Manly Warringah in which they never surrendered.

Andy Ferris had another top game and rounded off a free kick, with Chris Ortiz shipping the ball to Mick Albury who set up Ferris for the early winner.

Manly has now struggled for five games without collecting a point and is finding it increasingly hard to find the net.

RESULTS

Central Coast United 3 (Gribble, Erkin Osman o.g., Corbett) Rosebery Portugal 1 (Heery), Campbelltown Vikings 2 (Defelichbus, Carney) Southern Districts 3 (Gimenez, Seribae (pen), Selik), Fairfield City 4 (Arbelo, Hastie (pen), Ciaramella 2) Orange Waratah 1 (Hooper), Dulwich Hill Madeira 1 (Duarte (pen) Petersham Lusitanos 1 (R. Lowe) Gladesville Hornsby 1 (G. Williamson), Mount Druitt Town 3 (L. White, C. Lowe, Campbell), Granville Chile 1 (Ferris) Manly Warringah 0, Waverley 2 (Wotherspoon, Walker) Auburn Yugal 0, Central Coast United 1 (K. Caban) Gladesville-Hornsby 1 (Butt).

LEADING SCORERS. 10 Paul Harriott, 8 Dennis Duarte, 7 Barry Walker, 5 Remy Galloway, Paul Pette-non, Gary Hastie, Graeme Williamson, 4 Mark Butler, Oskar Selik, Sep Disch, Leo Utioa, Max Defelichbus, Ray Carney, 3 Nello Borges, Vaso Despotovic, Andrew Ollier, Robbie Lowe, Tony Heery, Steve Karavatakis, Chris Butt.

Canberra Croatia retains Cup

BY GRAHAM COOKE

CANBERRA Croatia retained the NSW Challenge Cup with what is becoming a typically dominating display at Deakin Oval on Sunday.

The 3-0 margin over visiting Sydney Macedonia was Croatia's eighth consecutive win — a record — the youth team's victory by the same score means the club has completed a 12-match Cup program without dropping a point, and the games were watched by the season's largest crowd of 1527.

On a day when many played well, the man of the match was Ned Zelc.

Time and time again his long passes downfield devastated the Macedonian defence, switching pressure from one side to the other with one majestic action.

Macedonia came to the ACT with a severe handicap, the bad weather in Sydney meaning the club had to

play four matches in the past eight days in order to qualify.

Many of its players looked jaded and Croatia took full advantage with a whirlwind opening. Stan Dukic and Tony Lemezina going close before Kulcar deflected an Alan Reis shot past goalkeeper Tom Golovodovski in the eighth minute.

The mid-part of the first half was the flattest of the game.

Canberra was content to knock the ball about and sit on its lead and Macedonia was unable to do much about it.

Dunn had the ball in the net again in the 22nd minute but an infringement spotted by Sydney referee Alan Townsend



Canberra Croatia midfielder Stan Dukic

stifled the home cheers.

Croatia killed the game off in the 40th minute. Pratezina received the ball from Dukic and put in a perfect cross finding Lemezina unchallenged only a metre off the line.

The striker rarely wastes those kind of opportunities and this time was no exception.

At the other end Peter Gunning's vacation ended when he had to get down smartly to save from Tony Genovese but it was a rare flurry from Macedonia.

After 78 minutes Reis' strong diagonal run left Mack Reveley in his wake. Reveley's second attempt at a

challenge sent Reis sprawling in the penalty area and the striker calmly sent Golovodovski the wrong way with the spot kick.

Reis missed a golden chance for his second when he shot straight at the goalkeeper, picked up the rebound only to blaze over, then was unlucky with a drive late in the game which hit the post.

CANBERRA CROATIA
Gunning, Marcina (Vavich), Dunn (Zeljko), Zelc, Kulcar, Kowalevski, Reis, Lemezina, Dukic (Serbia 74).

SYDNEY MACEDONIA
Golovodovski, Genovese, Cakovski, Pilovski, Reveley, Fernandez, Kostin, Arsenov, Spirovski, Kadric.
REFEREE: A. Townsend
CROWD: 1527

A hat-trick for Kadric

WITH barely a day's notice to organise affairs, Sydney Macedonia and North Shore United featured in two crucial games on Friday night.

Only nine players could be assembled for the Under-19 side of North Shore and no goalkeeper was among them, so their spirited showing in going down only 1-3 was admirable.

In the first grade game Macedonia ran out 4-0 winners, not enough to guarantee them a place in the final, that is until NSW Federation General manager Ian Holmes advised them, as they trooped off the field, that due to a breach of regulations, they would after all be making the trip to Deakin Oval.

A free kick on the edge of the box in the 10th minute was blasted in by Fabian Kadric who went on to score twice from the penalty spot for another of his frequent hat-tricks.

Theo Kotsias grab-

bed the other goal in the 55th minute making a good run and finishing nicely.

Kotsias was the man to come down in the 74th minute, resulting the second penalty. The other was in the 33rd when Scott Gilbert clashed with Pat Crookes.

Leo Arcosa was back to his best, having a free kick attempt tipped over by Craig Thornton, while North Shore battled away with Lee Sutherland and Aaron Ferguson working hard in mid-field and Rik Roldan having the best shot, one which brought out the best in Golovadanovski.

SYDNEY MACEDONIA.
Golovadanovski, Souris, Cakovski, Pilovski, Reveley, Fernandez, Kostin, Arsenov, Spirovski, Kadric.

NORTH SHORE UNITED
Thornton, Gillan, Crookes (Booth), Pierce, Gough, Norman, Bennett (Morrison), Sutherland, Ferguson, Savidas, Roldan (Hunter).

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Schools visits begin in Ku-ring-gai

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THE welcome programme of school visitations headed by Robbie Wheatley is under way in the pilot Sydney project in the Sydney area.

Wheatley has finalised his field officers for the project in the persons of leading players Ian Gray, Robbie Hooker, Tom McCulloch, Paul Okon and Gary van Egmond.

Today (Wednesday) McCulloch and Hooker visit Asquith High School from 9am-10.20am.

Over a 10-day period 15 schools are being covered.

School children will be offered skills training, which can be followed up both at school and at home.

Wheatley said: "By practicing eight skills the children will have their eyes opened to discovering many more."

In June the big Northgate Shopping Centre in Hornsby will stage a one-week "Soccer Expo", complete with leading player appearances, videos of the game, displays, and mannequins outfitted in soccer gear.

Wheatley expects skills and soccer interest to rub off, but the other one is to get more Australian youngsters interested in the game.

And that can only most efficiently be achieved by using a parallel campaign to bring local associations and more particularly local clubs into the act.

This season Blacktown Association cleverly recovered an initial loss of 1,000 players by running a follow-up recruitment campaign for more youngsters.

In business, turning advertising into sale of merchandise — merchandising the advertising — is the name of the game.

Close liaison between Wheatley himself and the local clubs is vital right from the

start in every district.

The results will be capable of being quantified in every district covered by field visits in early 1991.

Later the visitations will need to be directed to the private schools.

Two country areas have already been covered, and Lismore is on the list.

The present campaign includes Thurs May 10 9.15am: Asquith Girls HS, Warrawee PS, Fri May 11: St Ives HS

9.15am, Auluba Oval 1pm. Mon May 14: St Ives South 11.10am, Turramurra North

1.30pm. Tues May 15: Beaumont Rd 1.30pm. Wed May 16: Hornsby Girls HS 1pm. Thursday May 17: Lindfield Demonstration 1.30pm. Fri May 18: Lindfield East 9.20am, Chelmsford Ave 1pm.



LIVERPOOL ALBION under 12 Division 1 — Eric Lynch (captain), Billy Smith, Russell Cleary, Lindsey Gibbons, Andrew Carter, Joseph Bruni, Shannon Riley, Michael Wyatt, Steven Doriguzzi, Gary Humphries, Mario Capitani, Scott Karpik, Robert Todorovski, Bill Smith (coach), Shane Smith (manager) — HECTOR CARRASCO pic.



AVALON SOCCER CLUB, under 12 Division — Patrick Allen, Dane Backhouse, Nick Osbourne, Paul Pike, Dylan Lopez, Scott Hill, Colin Murphy, John Ryan, Martin Heathcote, Sasha Popovic, Adam Campbell, Matt Woodman, Lucas Porter, Paul Ferrian, Terry Allen (coach), George Heathcote (manager) — HECTOR CARRASCO photo



ROCKDALE ILINDEN under 14s: Jimmy Burmusovski, Robert Gerovski, Goce Dociski, Yassar Amine, Peco Bulakovski, Ian Veleski, Zarko Paceskoski, Kire Sodzimovski, Goce Trajlovski, Tasko Jovanovski, Robert Funovski, Robert Trajevski, Peco Kanatralovski, Brendon Doak, Nick Kotevski, Robert Sarametkoski, P. Dameski (coach), R. Todorovski (assistant coach), A. Burmuzovski (manager) — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.



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ROCKDALE ILINDEN under 17 team: Front line, l to r — J. Massoni, G. Koneski, B. Suteski, D. Zvezdakovski, V. Janevski, R. Micevski. Back row — M. Talevski, R. Ilievski, M. Dimovski, B. Konetski, G. Georgievski, O. Neckovski, M. Velovski, P. Trajanovski (coach) — Photo HECTOR CARRASCO

Kids need National League

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THE future health of ACT soccer at all levels depends upon the territory once again represented in the National League, juniors boss Brian Golledge says.

In a convincing argument in favour of co-operation between the various areas of the sport, he attributes the decline of almost a 1000 in junior league registrations over the past five years directly to the 1986 relegation of Canberra City and Inter Monaro from the big league.

"It is no coincidence that this period coincides with a lack of big soccer in the area," Golledge, the chairman of the junior league, says.

"The fact that this has also been a success for the leading teams in basketball and Rugby League has not helped us."

In 1985 junior soccer could boast more than 6000 youngsters playing the sport each Saturday.

While final figures are not yet in for the 1990 season, the total is not expected to be much above 5000.

Golledge paid tribute to the actions of Federation chairman in bringing Indonesia and Charlton Athletic to Canberra.

"Big matches like that help to promote soccer in the minds of youngsters and give us something to work on."

There was also the long-standing problem of the leakage away from the sport which begins around 13.

"That is a national problem and has to do with the availability of so many other sports."

"I am certainly not against kids trying canoeing or orienteering, but they must en-

sure they know that we are still here if they decide that, after all, it's not for them.

"Above all we must

improve our administration so that we present a well organised front to the parents and children of the ACT.

UMBRO YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 12 SATURDAY MAY 5 DIVISION 1

		U13	U14	U15	U17
APIA	v St George	0-1	0-0	1-1	0-1
Syd Olympic	v Sthn Districts	1-1	4-0	2-0	0-3
Syd Croatia	v Cant/M ville	2-0	0-0	2-1	0-1
Melita	v Macarthur	0-3	2-0	3-3	1-0
Blacktown City	v Illawarra	5-0	3-3	2-0	6-0
Marconi	v Nepean	2-3	0-0	1-1	2-0
Sutherland	v Bankstown	3-1	0-0	2-1	3-0

ROUND 13 SUNDAY MAY 6 DIVISION 2

Ku-ring-gai	v Canterbury	0-3	4-0	0-1	0-2
Fairfield City	v Warringah	5-0	0-4	2-2	0-7
Granville	v Gladesville	0-2	0-3	3-2	2-6
Sthn & Eastern	v Manly Warringah	0-4	2-2	0-1	0-1
Polonia	v Avala	1-1	2-0	1-1	2-1
Central Coast	v Blacktown	0-1	0-0	3-1	2-1
Sthn Districts	v Rockdale	1-0	5-1	1-1	1-1

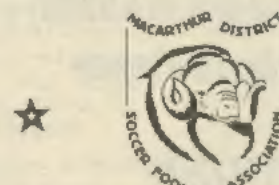
ROUND 12 SATURDAY MAY 5

Warringah	v Ku-ring-gai	0-5	6-0	1-2	2-0
Canterbury	v Sthn Branch	1-2	0-8	—	0-1
Gladesville	v Fairfield City	6-0	3-0	1-1	w/1
Manly Warringah	v Granville	1-1	0-1	1-0	2-0
Avala	v Sthn & Eastern	1-2	0-1	1-4	2-2
Blacktown	v Polonia	2-1	3-0	2-1	2-1
Rockdale	v Central Coast	1-0	2-1	1-0	1-0

ROUND 13 DIVISION 1 SUNDAY MAY 6

St George	v Syd Olympic	1-1	1-0	0-1	0-4
Cant/M ville	v APIA	0-1	0-0	1-3	1-2
Macarthur	v Syd Croatia	1-0	2-2	2-3	4-6
Melita	v Melita	2-2	0-0	1-0	0-5
Illawarra	v Blacktown City	0-2	0-1	1-0	0-4
Nepean	v Marconi	1-1	0-2	2-2	1-2
Bankstown	v Sutherland	1-1	0-2	—	—

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Second time may be lucky for Sampdoria

BY LOU GAUTIER

The northern Swedish seaport of Gothenburg is the venue for Thursday morning's (Australian time) final of the European Cup-Winners' Cup final which you can catch live on SBS-Television.

Sampdoria, of Italy, have again qualified for the final after an unsuccessful bid last season when they lost to Barcelona at Berne.

Their opponents, Anderlecht, of Belgium dominated that specific competition in the mid-70s when they became of age internationally.

Sampdoria have yet to win a major European prize and in Italy have long lived in the shadow of the clubs from Milan and Turin, and now Naples.

Their will to finally capture a European competition will be intense and they certainly have the talent to do just that.

Anderlecht only have the Cup-Winners' Cup to salvage what has been for them a disappointing season.

Domestically, they were edged out by Frank Farina's FC Brugge and they were also eliminated in the Belgian Cup.

Should they lose to Sampdoria, they will, however, still be in Europe next season — in the UEFA Cup.

Ditto for Sampdoria, who have finished high enough in the Italian standings to compete also in the 1990/91 UEFA Cup should they fail in Gothenburg.

Sampdoria reached the final without losing a single game.



GIANLUCA VIALLI — Sampdoria match-winner.

They eliminated Brann Bergen of Norway, West Germany's Borussia Dortmund, Grasshoppers Zurich (Switzerland) and Monaco, get to Gothenburg.

Anderlecht just lost once — a 1-2 second round defeat against the holders in Barcelona, but as they had won the first leg 2-0 in Brussels they qualified for the quarter-finals.

Anderlecht's other victims were Ballymena (Northern Ireland), Admira Wacker of Austria and Dinamo Bucharest in the semi-finals when they also won away.

Coach Vuhadin Boskov's Sampdoria will again look to Gianluca Vialli for the goals, but Mancini and Dossena will also pose a threat to the rugged Anderlecht defence.

The Belgian side is a polyglot one, with internationals from Belgium, Holland, Zaire, Denmark and Iceland.

Their attack in-

cludes the Belgian national team's feared twin strikers Marc Degryse and Marc van der Linden.

Grun and Vervoort are also in Belgium's World Cup squad and star Dutch international Berry van Tiggelen anchors the defence.

Yugoslav ace Sretan Katanec is the only import likely to appear for the Italian side, which is well organised in defence with veteran Vierchowod still going strong, and in Pagliuca Sampdoria have a goalkeeper who may be on the verge of Italian national team selection.

You couldn't ask for a closer game, which is sure to go down the wire, with extra-time and even the dreaded penalty shoot-out a distinct possibility.

Sampdoria get my nod, ever so slightly, as Italian clubs aim for a grand slam of European trophies this season.

United out to redeem pride

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SATURDAY night is that time again when most of the soccer world comes to a standstill to watch the electrically charged English FA Cup final.

And ABC-TV will again bring in a live telecast from Wembley Stadium.

Commentator John Motson will be assisted by former England and West Ham great Trevor Brooking.

Just before midnight, the two respective managers will lead the highly fancied Manchester United and the relatively unglamorous underdogs, Crystal Palace, out on to the famed London pitch.

Alex Ferguson, United's big-spending manager, has a star-studded side with names like Scottish World Cup goalkeeper Jimmy Leighton, defenders Gary Pallister, Steve Bruce and Mike Duxbury.

Their midfield superstars are England captain Bryan Robson and Neil Webb, with Mark Hughes and Brian McClair sharing goalscoring duties.

United are expected to play with three men up front and here we anticipate that Ferguson will bring in wide man Danny Wallace to link up with Hughes and McClair, with 18-year-old goalscoring sensation Mark Robins on the bench as the match kicks off.

This will be Manchester United's 11th FA Cup final appearance, out of which they have won six.

Their last win was in 1985 when they defeated Everton 1-0 after extra-time, with the winner being hit home by Norman Whiteside.



MARK HUGHES

On that occasion, United were unfortunate to have tough centre-back Kevin Moran sent off, the only time a player has ever received his marching orders in a Cup final.

In contrast to the millionaires from Manchester, who will be looking to the FA Cup to salvage a mediocre league season during which they were threatened by relegation until the last few rounds, Crystal Palace are very much the Cinderella team of this year's FA Cup competition.

Palace, one of the minnows of the English First Division who were promoted just two seasons ago, are a home-spun collection of players, lacking a single 'name' star.

This is the south London club's first-ever Cup final appearance and they will be the sentimental favourites of the huge world-wide TV audience.

The best Crystal Palace could manage until this year was a semi-final appearance back in 1976.

Ironically, their manager is a former Manchester United player, Steve Coppell.

He will be determined to do well against his former club but he starts at a big disadvantage, unable to match the quality players on United's books.

Relatively unfinancial until Richard Branson, head of Virgin Records, took control of the club, Palace bought Britain's first million-pound goalkeeper in Nigel Martin from Bristol Rovers.

Palace showed enormous tenacity and resilience to eliminate holders Liverpool 4-3 after extra-time in the semi-finals after suffering the indignity of a 9-0 thrashing by the Reds earlier in the season.

Palace have defiant centre-backs in Gary O'Reilly and Andy Thorn, with solid midfield operators in Geoff Thomas and Alan Pardue.

In fact, it was Pardue's fighting goal in extra-time that killed Liverpool in the semis.

In attack, Palace field two 'no-frills' strikers — Mark Bright and Ian Wright.

The Londoners are quietly confident they can continue on their merry giant-killing way, but English bookies have Manchester United as firm favourites.

Presenting this football classic from the ABC studios will be John Bell, assisted by John Kosmina and Alan Davidson.



MARC DEGRYSE: Anderlecht's best bet for a goal.

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South American Scene

BY MARIO ETCHART

IN Group 3 of the Libertadores Cup Chilean champions Colo Colo scored a very important 2-1 away victory over Peruvians Sporting Cristal, at Lima's National Stadium.

Striker Salgado opened the score for the visitors in the 20th minute with a header.

Colo Colo went further ahead in the 66th when Dabrowski added a second goal also from the head.

Cristal's goal was netted by midfielder Cincunegui one minute later.

The start of match was delayed 55 minutes

because of the absence of the Colombian referees designated by the South American Football Confederation.

After an agreement reached by both clubs, they were substituted by local referees, and when both teams meet again in Santiago the match will be controlled by Chilean referees.

Fernando Chappell, the Peruvian referee in charge, caused a good impression in his first international outing.

Colombia defeated the United States 1-0 in another friendly international played in Miami.

Striker Guerrero scored the only goal for the Colombians in their fourth consecutive victory over the Americans since 1984, when the locals beat the South Americans 1-0.

In their last encounter, also played in Miami for the Malboro Cup, last January, Colombia beat the USA 2-1.

The United States will continue their build-up preparation for the World Cup against Malta, in New Jersey.

The Colombians were defeated 2-0 by Mexico a fortnight ago.

UEFA CUP

JUVENTUS will go into the second leg of the UEFA Cup final on Wednesday week with a two-goal cushion over fellow Italian Fiorentina after winning their home tie 3-1 last Wednesday.

Gallia opened the scoring for Juve in the 3rd minute; Buso equalised in the 10th and the score was tied at 1-1 until the 59th minute when De Agostini broke the deadlock.

And 12 minutes later, it was 3-1 after Casiraghi netted.

The result somewhat flattered Fiorentina, who were outplayed for all of the second half.

Stuart McKimmie Roxburgh Rocker

HAMPDEN hero Stuart McKimmie has given Scotland boss Andy Roxburgh a king-sized headache.

The Aberdeen full-back had virtually abandoned hope of getting to the World Cup finals after 10 months in the international wilderness.

McKimmie, a last-minute substitute for the injured Maurice Malpas, capped his Scotland comeback with his first goal in five years to sink the Argentines.

And now he says: "It was only an experimental team last month, but I think we've all given the boss some food for



Rous Cup competition.

McKimmie also applauds Roxburgh's bold decision to omit Nicol and Gillespie from last month's squad after they'd been hauled out of an earlier Scotland get-together by Liverpool boss Kenny Dalglish.

"Too many players pull out of international squads and then play for their club on the Saturday," he says. "They'll think twice before they do it again."

"It's not fair on the boss, who has to be able to pick his best team."

But he does have some sympathy for Nicol and Gillespie.

"I'm sure they wanted to be with Scotland, but they had to obey their manager's orders."

McKimmie wasn't the only unsung hero to shine against Argentina.

Debutants Craig Levein, Robert Fleck and Stuart McCall all did enough to earn another international chance.

And that 1-0 victory has put the spring back in Scotland's step following a disturbing series of results earlier in the season.

"It's given us all a boost," McKimmie continues.

"With the exception of Diego Maradona, Argentina had virtually their best team out at Hampden yet I didn't think they were that impressive."

"I realise Maradona is probably the best player in the world, but even he can't make a team on his own."

And the versatile Aberdeen defender believes Scotland should stick to their strengths if they're to make an impact in Italy this summer.

"We've fallen down in the past because we've tried to play the European style, which doesn't suit our game," he claims.

"It's hard for players to change their whole approach overnight."

"Opponents aren't used to our style and we should stick to our strengths and try to get at opponents quickly."

"After all, playing that way doesn't seem to have done the Republic of Ireland any harm."

— courtesy SHOOT



But the scorer of his nation's winner against world champions Argentina has forced his way back into Roxburgh's reckoning after Liverpool stay-aways Steve Nicol and Gary Gillespie were controversially left out of the squad.

thought.

"It will be difficult for him to leave out the boys who did so well against Argentina."

Stuart hadn't had a Scotland look-in since winning two caps against England and Chile in last year's

Kissing has to stop...

GOALSCORERS in Italia '90 will face disciplinary action if they celebrate their goals too boisterously.

FIFA's recent meeting in Milan laid down the new crackpot law and now the fun-factor could disappear from the tournament thanks to the kill-joys in command.

They want a return to the days of a quick pat on the back instead of all the kissing and cuddling.

But celebrating sequences are all part of the entertainment value and TV companies won't be grate-



ful for the new Victorian trend.

And it should be very interesting to see how the Brazilians react.

They tend to savour a goal for about ten minutes.



Aston Villa striker David Platt steps past helpless Norwich goalkeeper Mark Walton to score. Walton made amends later, with a brilliant save that ended Villa's English title hopes, the championship again going to Liverpool.

Romania shakes off shackles

AS the liberty bell continues to toll throughout Eastern Europe, Romania, once the maverick of the Warsaw Pact, and now in the fledgling throes of democracy — just like all its neighbours — look forward to their first appearance in the World Cup finals since 1970, in the knowledge that the only shackles they will face are those imposed by the tactics of coach Emerich Jenei.

Yet, in the wake of the bloodiest fighting seen in Europe since 1945, Romanian football faces an uncertain future.

Their best players, now freed from the constraints of the Ceausescu dictatorship will be allowed to ply their trade on foreign fields.

Romania's participation in the finals will provide some financial comfort to the national federation who, even if the side fails to progress from the difficult group B which includes holders Argentina, the Soviet Union and Cameroon, are assured of at least \$3 million.

The demand for hard currency is likely to intensify, as the army and security clubs like Steaua and Dinamo, lose their privileged status and seem certain to become self-financing.

The 1980s have been a productive decade for Romanian football. But, for clubs like Steaua, their survival now may depend on the sale of leading players, such as the gifted Gheorghe Hagi, who until now could not



Dorin Mateut of Romania

have left Romania without the presidential seal of approval.

Simple economics now dictate the need for change. If the state subsidies are removed, clubs will have to look elsewhere for funds.

Steaua, who are already sponsored by Ford, will find themselves confronted by the dilemma of selling their best players to maintain the club, while suffering a gradual decline in standards.

Steaua, who provide the nucleus of the national team, may suffer more than most, given the exposure Romania will have during their stay in Italy. No need to watch for defections now: the clubs will willingly sell if the price is right.

The crisis in Romania threatens to undermine the team's preparations for Italy.

Yet, it is to the credit of the international community that nationalist rivalries and cold war politics were cast aside to provide some relief for Romania's athletes.

Despite all their internal problems, it would be foolish to write off the team which deprived the highly talented Danes of a place in the finals.

The squad is brimful with quality players.

There may be as many as nine Steaua players in the squad, together with another seven from Dinamo.

The solidarity of the team is likely to be enhanced by the manner in which a number of Dinamo players gave invaluable assistance to local hospitals when the fighting was at its worst in Bucharest last December.

Romania's 4-3-3 formation has a tactical sophistication which owes much to the Steaua nucleus whose familiarity at club level is a bonus for coach Jenei when they step into national colours.

If Hagi, who is aptly nicknamed the "Maradona of the Carpathians", and his army colleagues Gavril Balint and Marius Lacatus — also primed for a possible move to Italy — can demonstrate their true talent on the greatest stage on earth, Romania could prove the surprise packet.

Bucharest, which has long been among the most repressed capitals of the Soviet bloc, has now become a symbol of hope for the future. And, for one particular player, his return there from a voluntary exile in Yugoslavia, has given Romania a timely boost for the finals.

Miodrag Belodedici, a 25-year-old sweeper, who played a prominent part in Steaua's momentous European Cup triumph in 1986, but defected to Yugoslavia with his family in January, 1989, is poised to make a welcome return to the national side.

Belodedici, who recently signed a four-year contract with Red Star Belgrade, was invited by the president of the Rumanian FC, Mircea Puscu, to join the squad for Italy.

Belodedici's return is a positive sign that Romanian football is about to enter a new era uncorrupted by influences by the Ceausescu clan.

— from WORLD SOCCER



NSL TOP FIVE SERIES



SUNDAY MAY 13

PRELIMINARY FINAL



PARRAMATTA STADIUM 3PM

SYDNEY OLYMPIC



VERSUS



MELBOURNE CROATIA



NSL COMMENTARY LINE ...
0055 21150



NSL HOT LINE-RESULTS ...
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NEXT WEEKEND — SUNDAY MAY 20



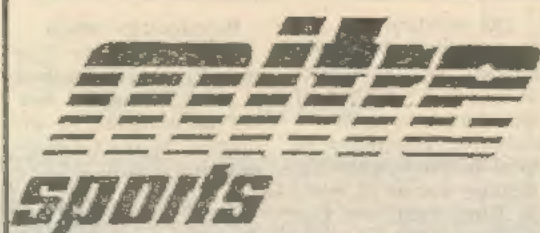
GRAND FINAL



MARCONI v WINNER (SYDNEY OLYMPIC v MELBOURNE CROATIA)



(There may be a second leg on Sunday May 27,
depending on whether Sydney and Melbourne are involved)



Quit

Ansett.